Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO.52 NOV.
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SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SPAZ FIAVO

The planet **Mobius** was like a paradise... until the evil **Doctor Robotnik** and his mechanical legions conquered the land and its people, using his knowledge of **technology and pollution**. But many **young, courageous citizens** banded together as a brave group of **freedom fighters!**

They struggle to overthrow the dictator and, one day, regain what was once theirs. Among them, the greatest of The Freedom Fighters is the **fastest and way-coolest dude on two feet... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!**

Now that Robotnik has been **defeated**, today is the first day that a **long-awaited peace** can be graciously enjoyed. On this fine morning, **Sonic** and his tutelage, **Tails**, take time to themselves. Together **striving** to develop the **talent** Sonic possesses that is within Tails' reach: **the gift of speed!**

Let's watch...

MAXWELL/HARRIS

IN THIS TIME OF RESTORED PEACE, SONIC TAKES ON THE ROLE OF MENTOR AND INSTRUCTS YOUNG TAILS IN THE WAYS OF SPEED. BESIDES FREEDOM, LIKE A NICE DAY, IS SOMETHING TO BE ENJOYED.

CONCENTRATION IS EVERYTHING, TAILS.

WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?

WHAT...?

WHOA!

I DON'T KNOW WHOSE LITTLE SCHEME THIS IS, BUT IT SURE IS CHEEZY LOOKIN'.

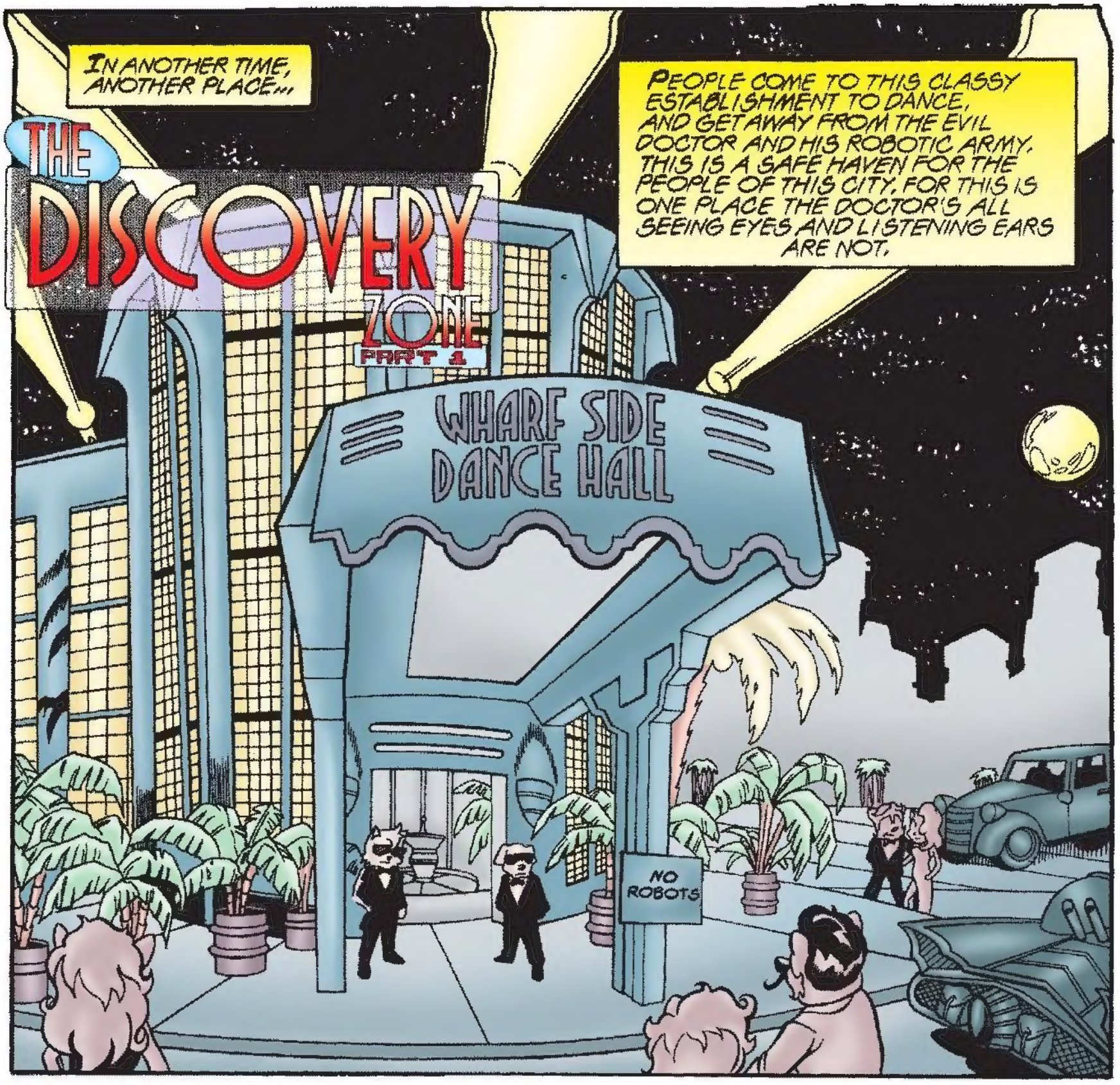
I'D BETTER CHECK THIS OUT AND SEE FOR MYSELF.

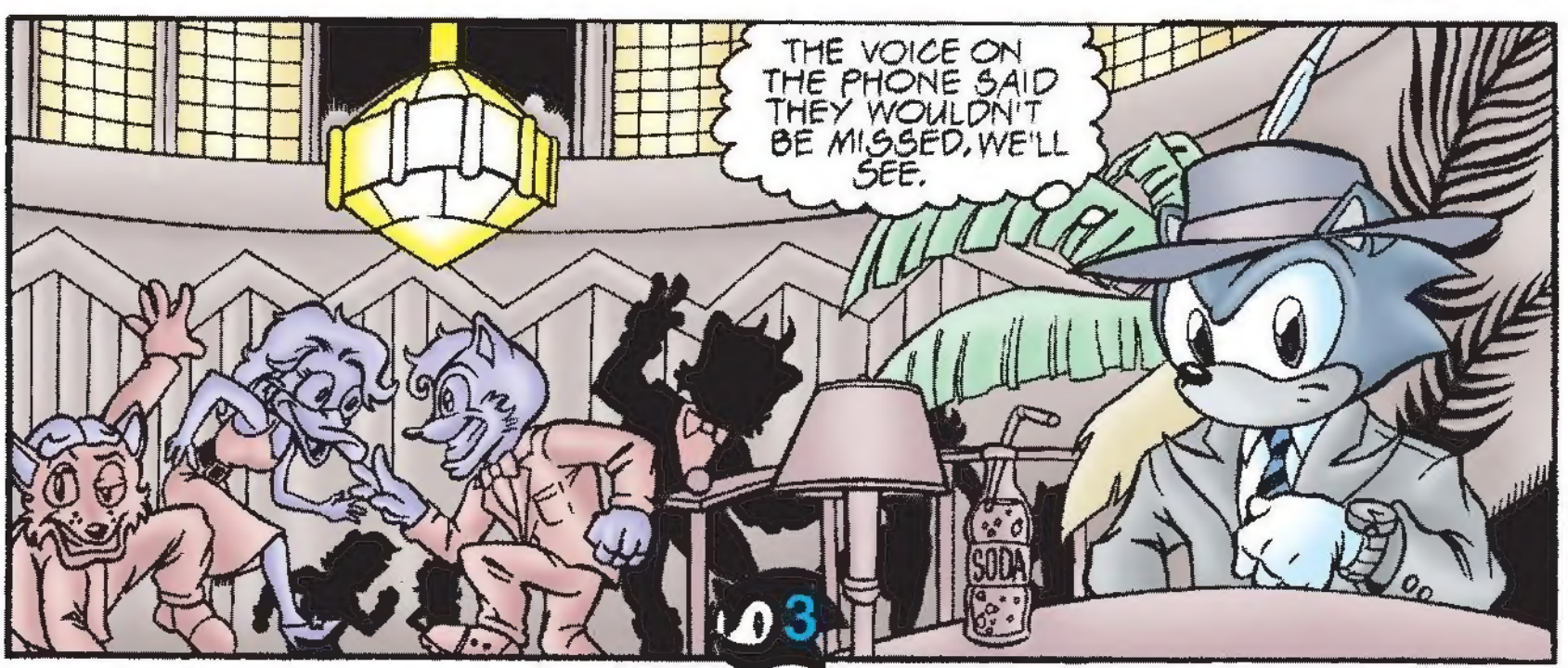
DO YOU THINK IT'S SAFE?

I DON'T KNOW. YOU JUST GO BACK AND TELL THE OTHERS.

I'M ALREADY GONE.

I'VE NEVER BEEN TO THIS PART OF THE FOREST BEFORE.
GOSH, THAT THING IS FAST!
IT'S HEADING STRAIGHT INTO THAT CAVE!
I'D BETTER BE CAREFUL. DON'T WANT ANYONE GETTING THE DROP ON ME INSIDE THERE.
HERE GOES NOTHIN'.
WHAOOOO





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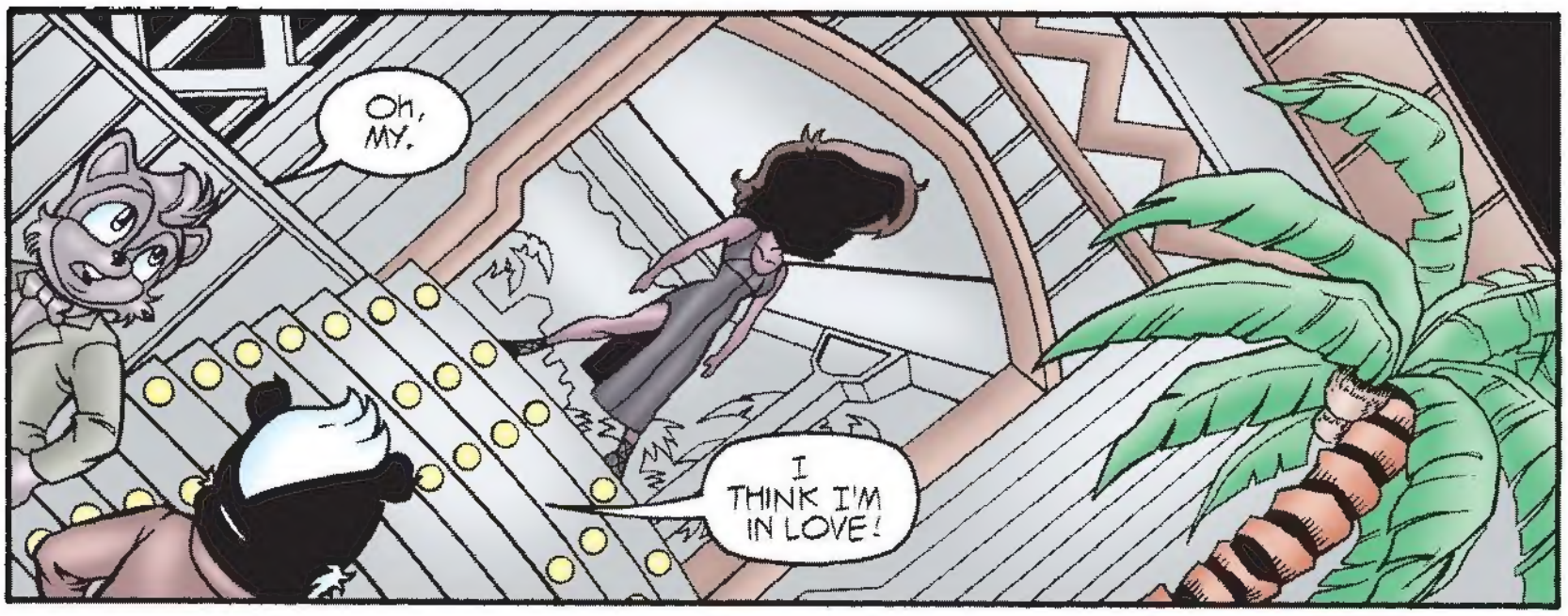
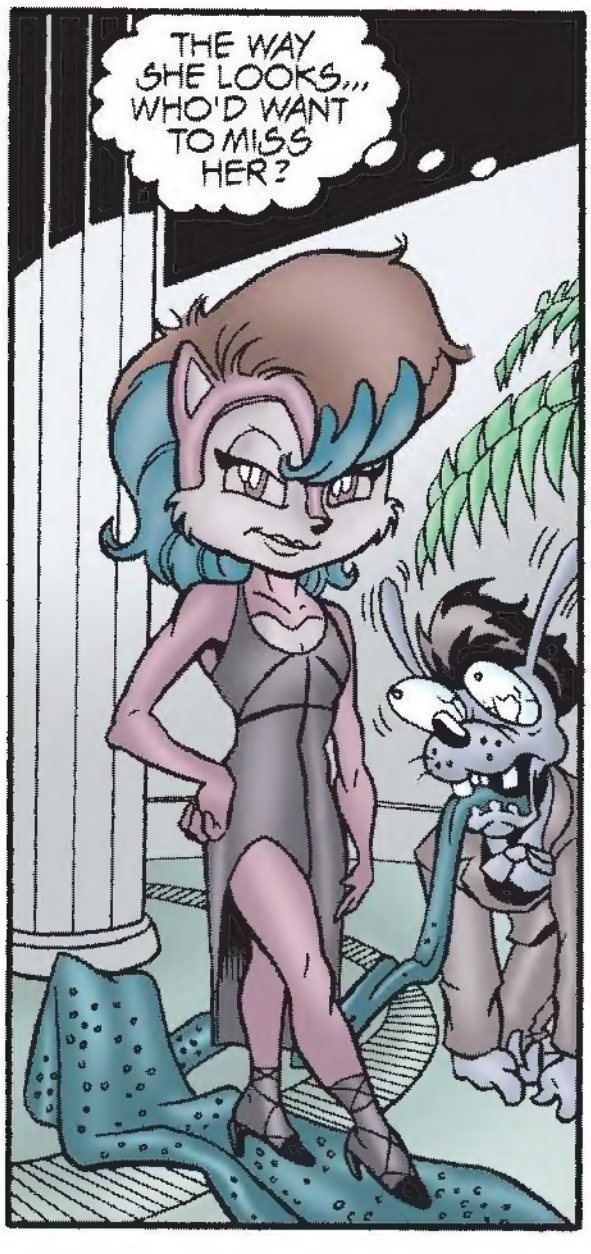
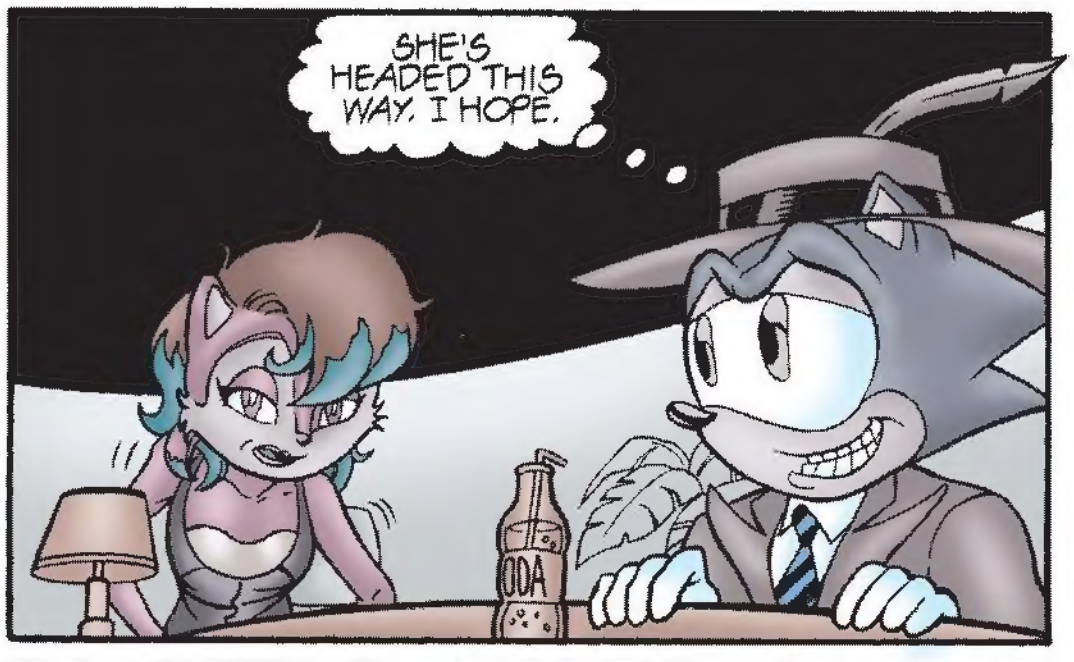
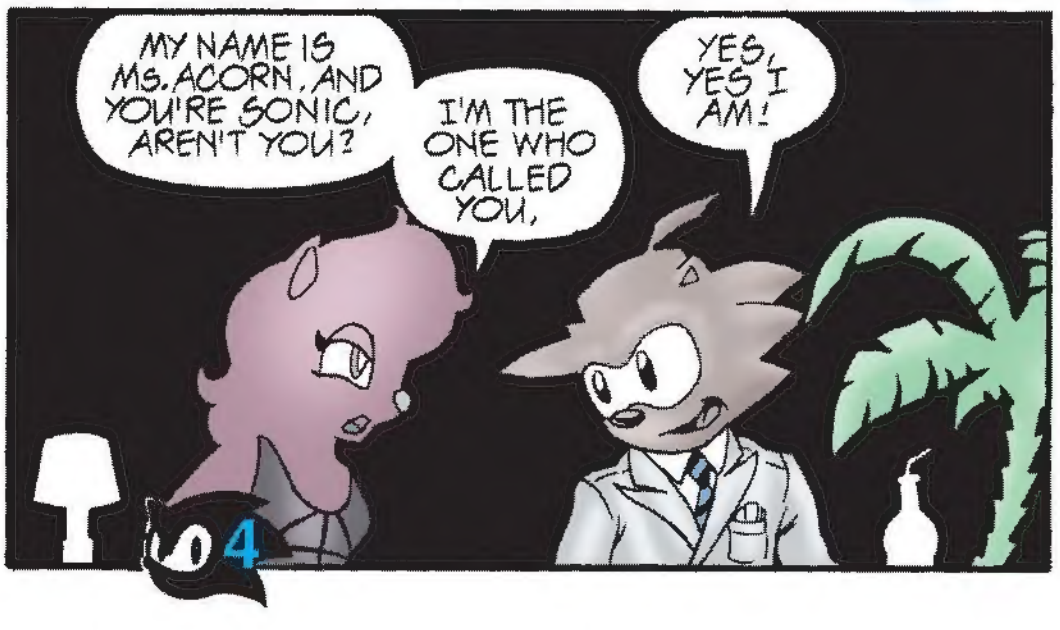
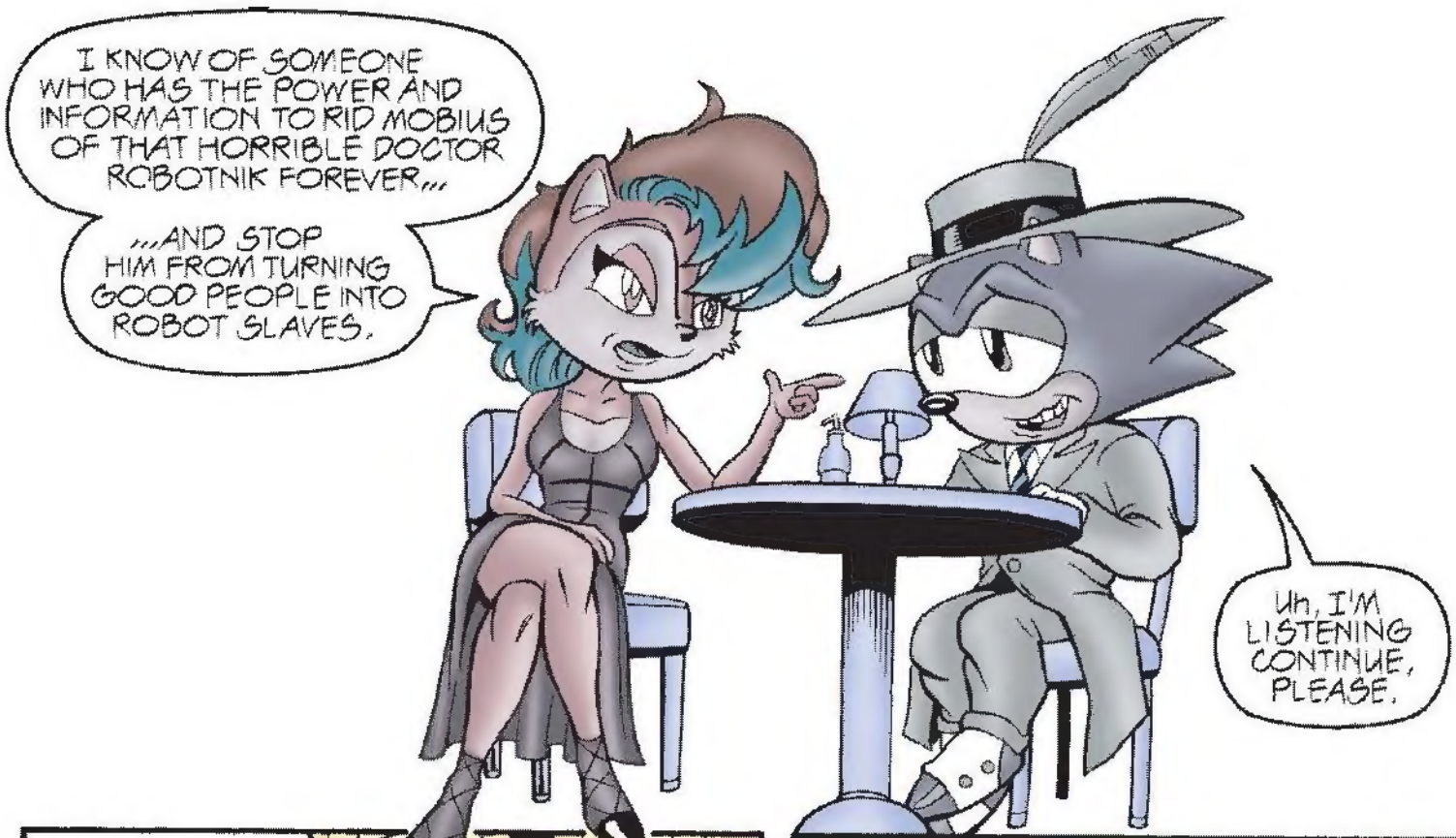

OH, MY.
I THINK I'M IN LOVE!

HI THERE.
OKAY, MAYBE SHE WAS RIGHT.
SLAP


THE WAY SHE LOOKS... WHO'D WANT TO MISS HER?

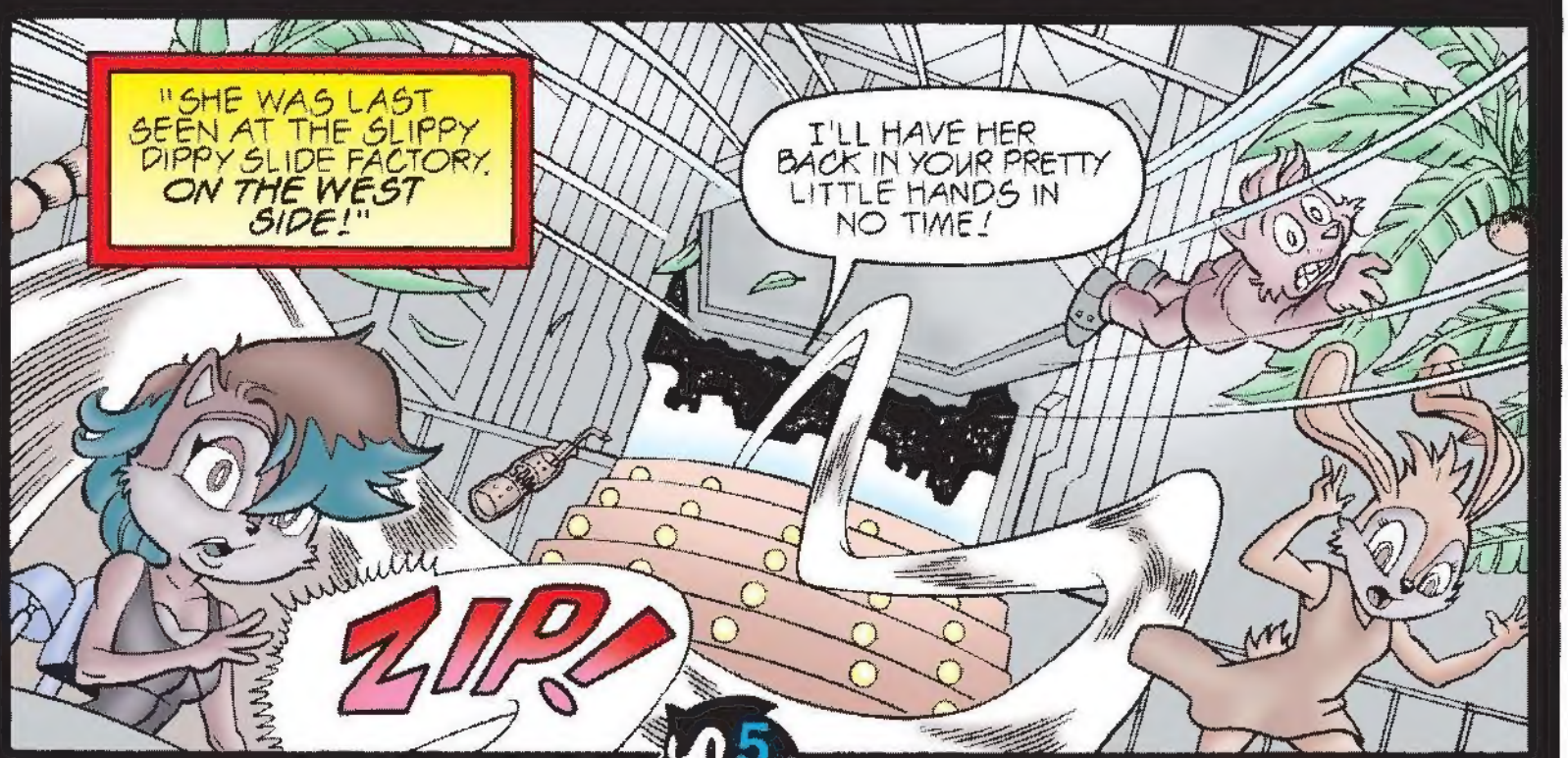

SHE'S HEADED THIS WAY, I HOPE.
ODA

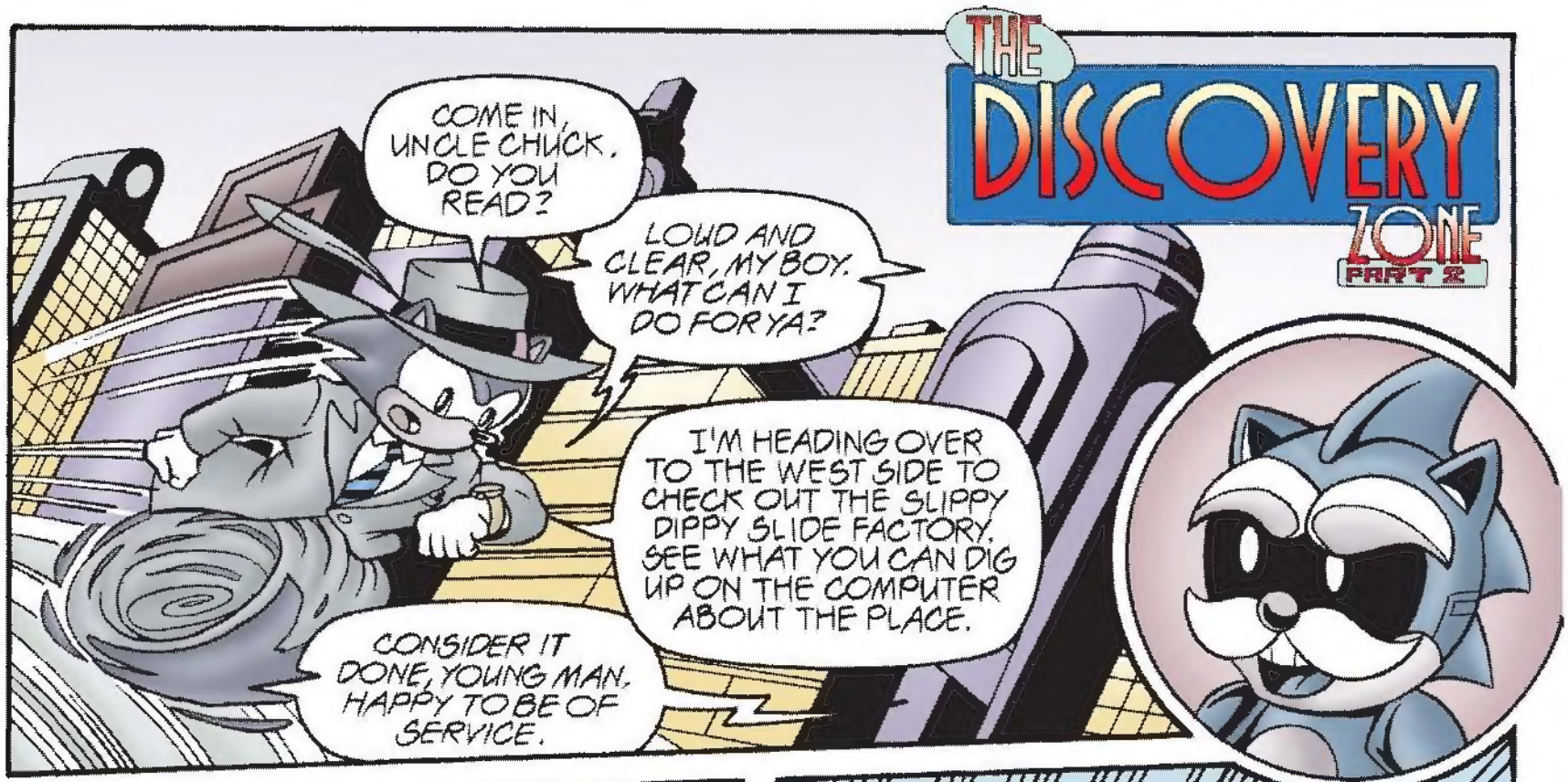

MY NAME IS MS. ACORN, AND YOU'RE SONIC, AREN'T YOU?
I'M THE ONE WHO CALLED YOU.
YES, YES I AM!

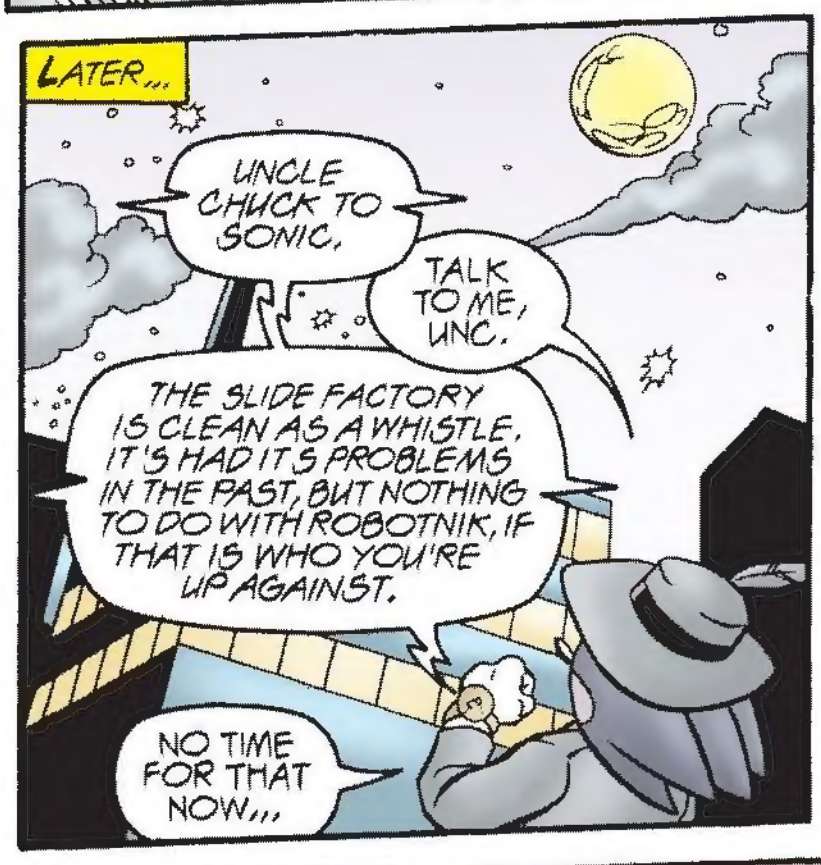

I KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO HAS THE POWER AND INFORMATION TO RID MOBIUS OF THAT HORRIBLE DOCTOR ROBOTNIK FOREVER...
...AND STOP HIM FROM TURNING GOOD PEOPLE INTO ROBOT SLAVES.
UH, I'M LISTENING CONTINUE, PLEASE.

ALL SOMEONE WOULD HAVE TO DO IS FIND MY FRIEND NICOLE...
...BRING HER BACK TO ME...

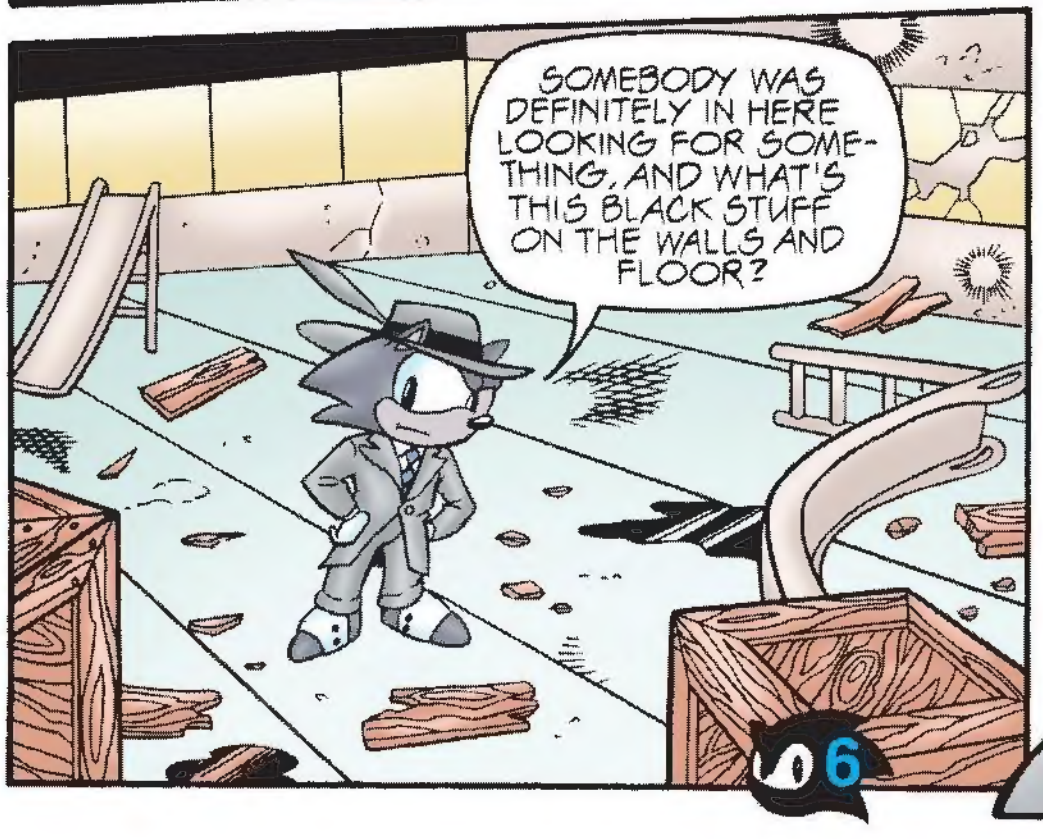
...AND COLLECT A NICE, BIG, JUICY REWARD.
YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF A MAN!


"SHE WAS LAST SEEN AT THE SLIPPY DIPPY SLIDE FACTORY, ON THE WEST SIDE!"
I'LL HAVE HER BACK IN YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HANDS IN NO TIME!
ZIP!

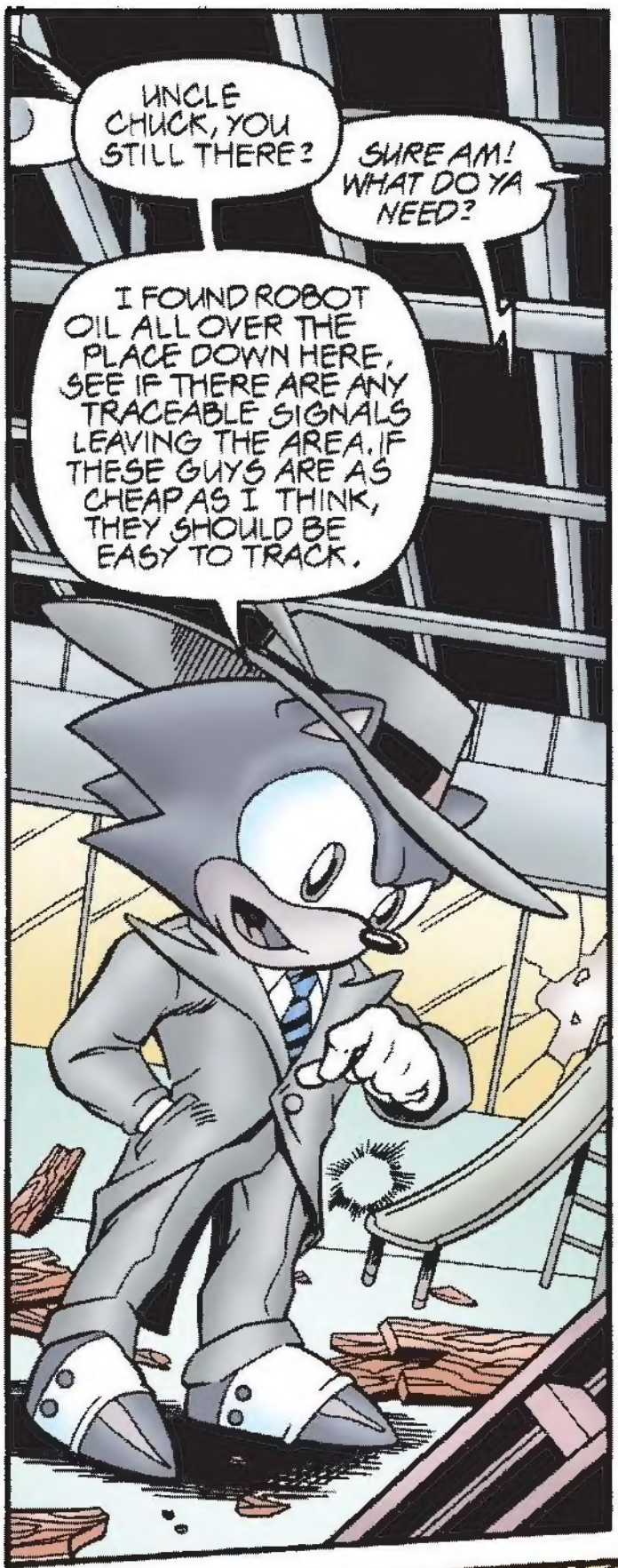

THE DISCOVERY ZONE PART 2
COME IN, UNCLE CHUCK. DO YOU READ?
LOUD AND CLEAR, MY BOY. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YA?
I'M HEADING OVER TO THE WEST SIDE TO CHECK OUT THE SLIPPY DIPPY SLIDE FACTORY. SEE WHAT YOU CAN DIG UP ON THE COMPUTER ABOUT THE PLACE.
CONSIDER IT DONE, YOUNG MAN. HAPPY TO BE OF SERVICE.

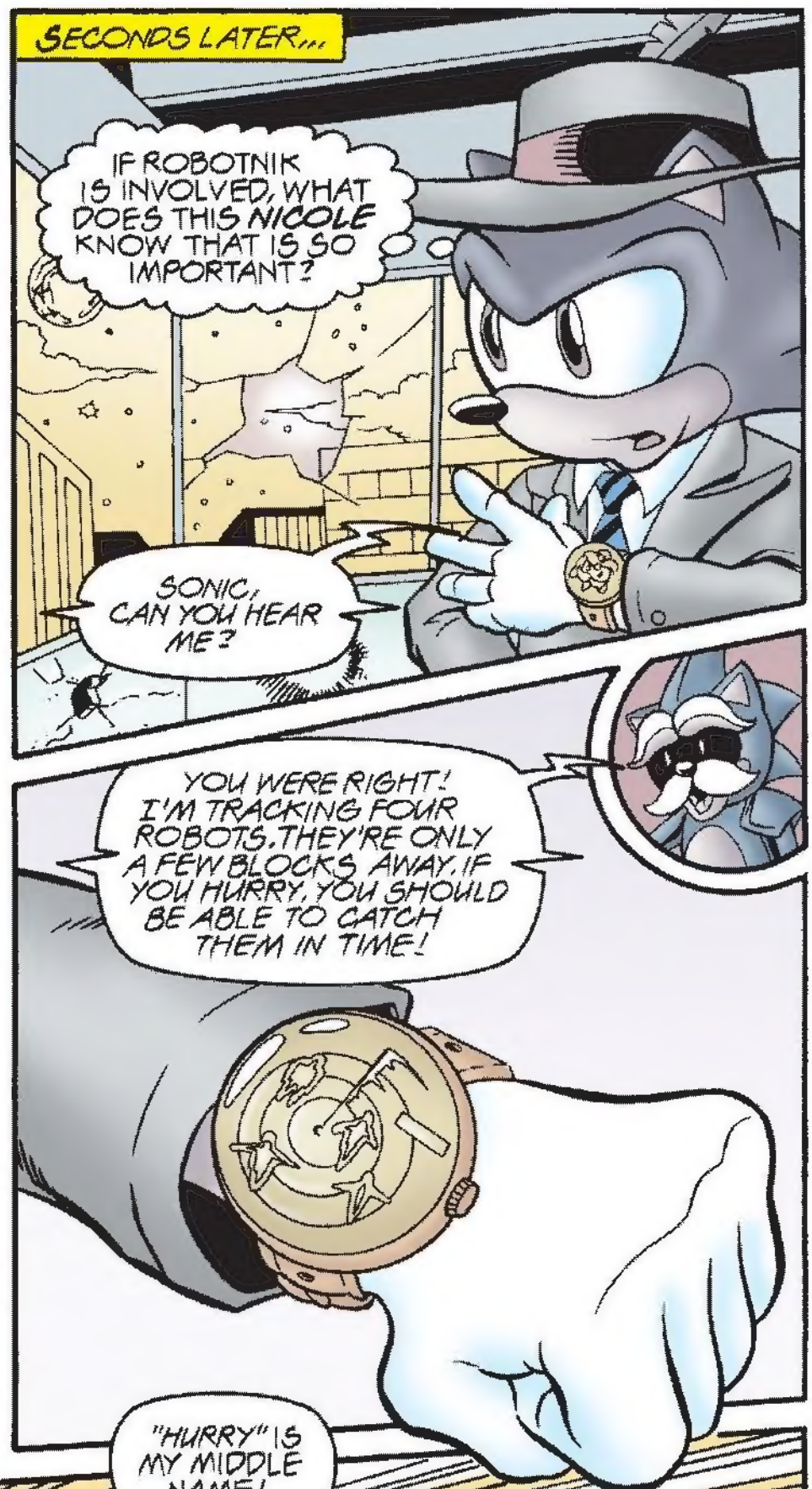

LATER...
UNCLE CHUCK TO SONIC.
TALK TO ME, UNC.
THE SLIDE FACTORY IS CLEAN AS A WHISTLE. IT'S HAD IT'S PROBLEMS IN THE PAST, BUT NOTHING TO DO WITH ROBOTNIK, IF THAT IS WHO YOU'RE UP AGAINST.
NO TIME FOR THAT NOW...

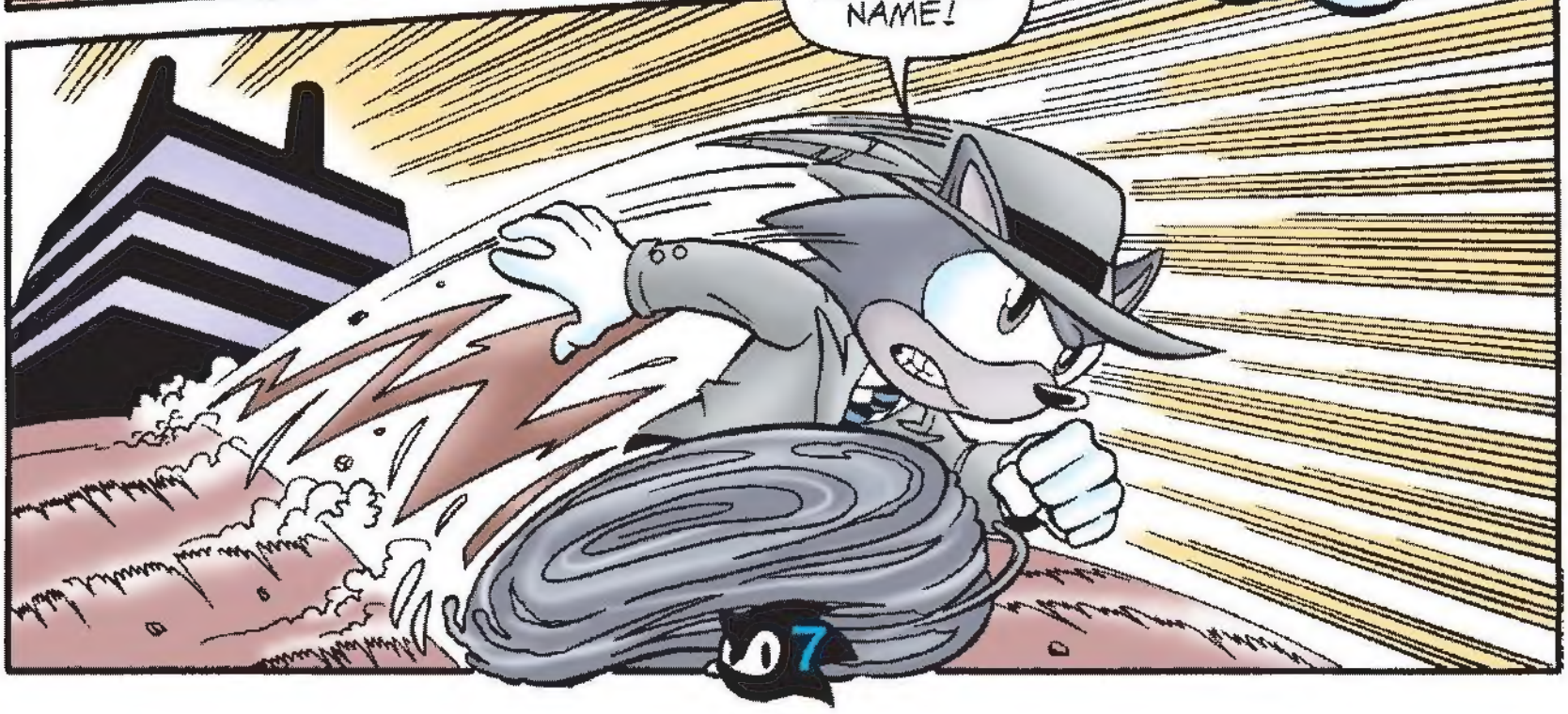
I'M GOING IN FOR A CLOSER LOOK!

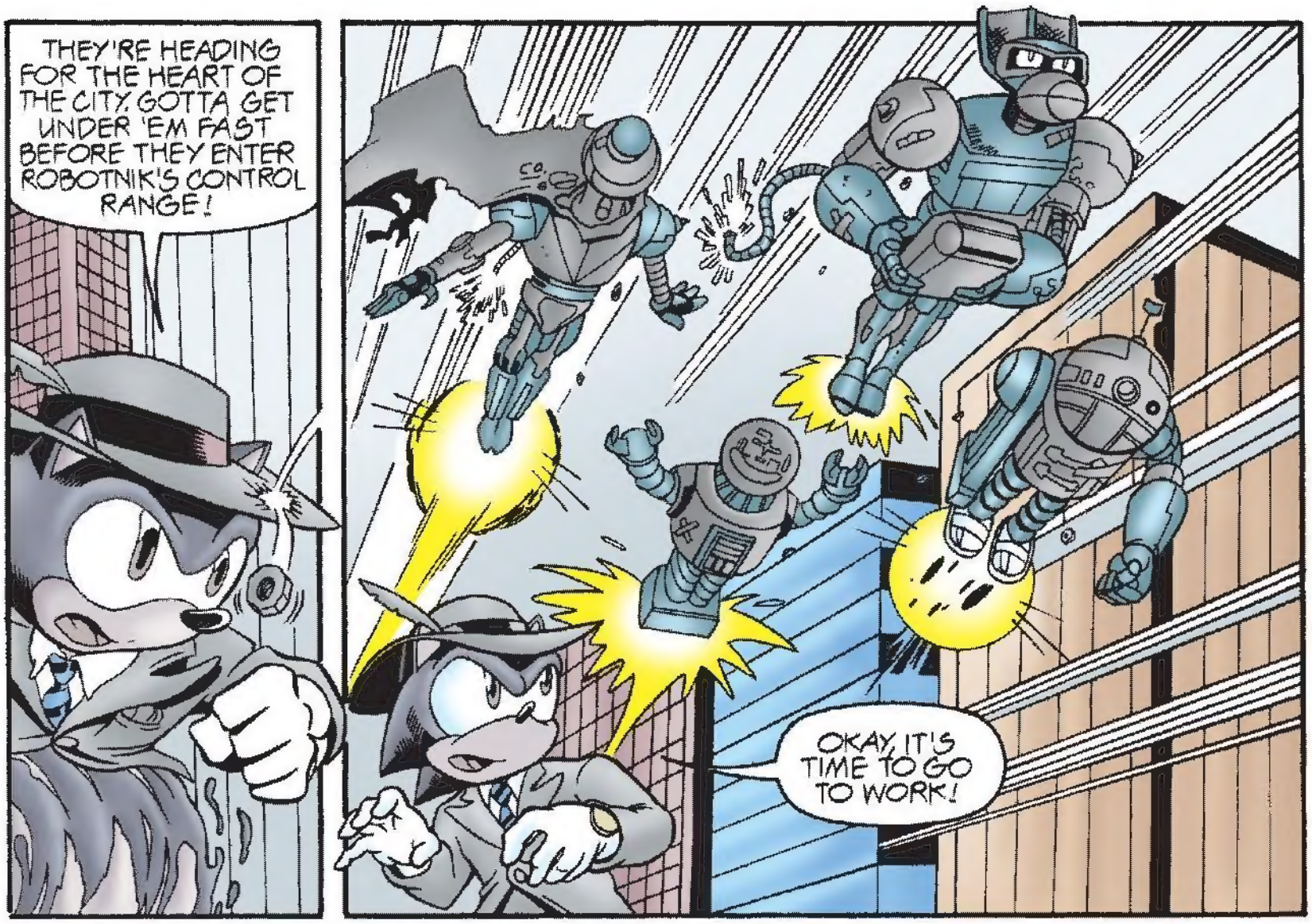

SOMEBODY WAS DEFINITELY IN HERE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING, AND WHAT'S THIS BLACK STUFF ON THE WALLS AND FLOOR?

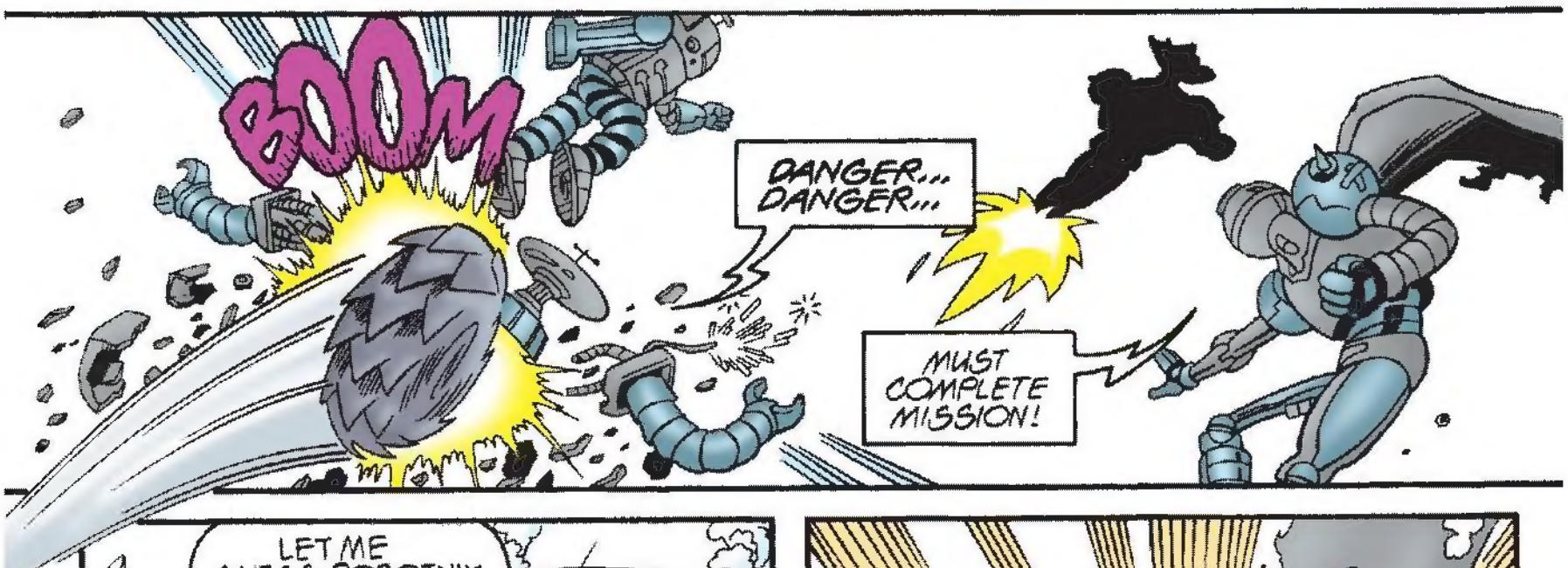
YOU DON'T USE THIS TYPE OF OIL IN MAKING SLIDES. THIS IS ROBOT OIL. AND I KNOW THERE'S ONLY ONE FAT MAN WHO WOULD SEND OIL-DRIPPIN' JUNK PILES TO DO HIS DIRTY WORK.

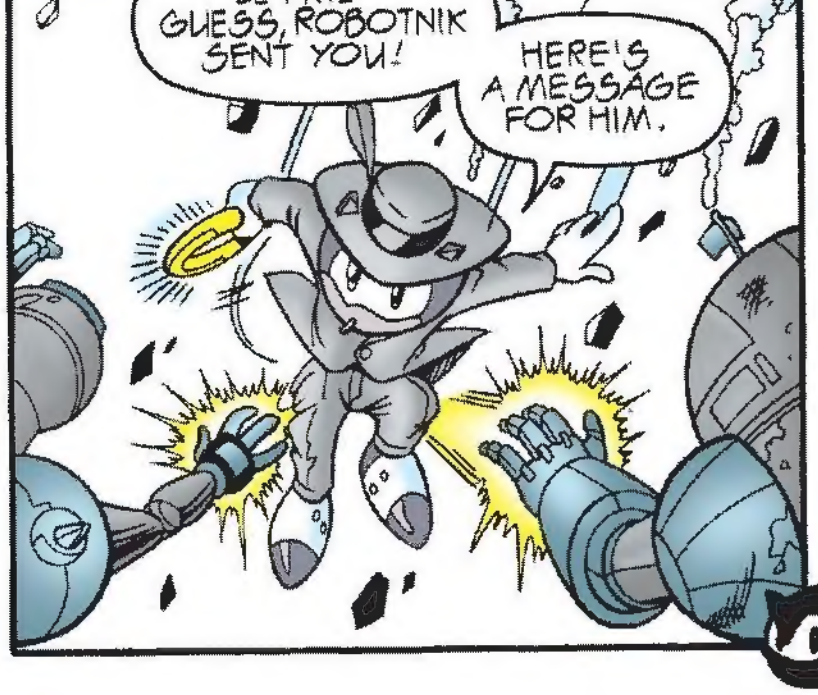

UNCLE CHUCK, YOU STILL THERE?
SURE AM! WHAT DO YA NEED?
I FOUND ROBOT OIL ALL OVER THE PLACE DOWN HERE, SEE IF THERE ARE ANY TRACEABLE SIGNALS LEAVING THE AREA. IF THESE GUYS ARE AS CHEAP AS I THINK, THEY SHOULD BE EASY TO TRACK.

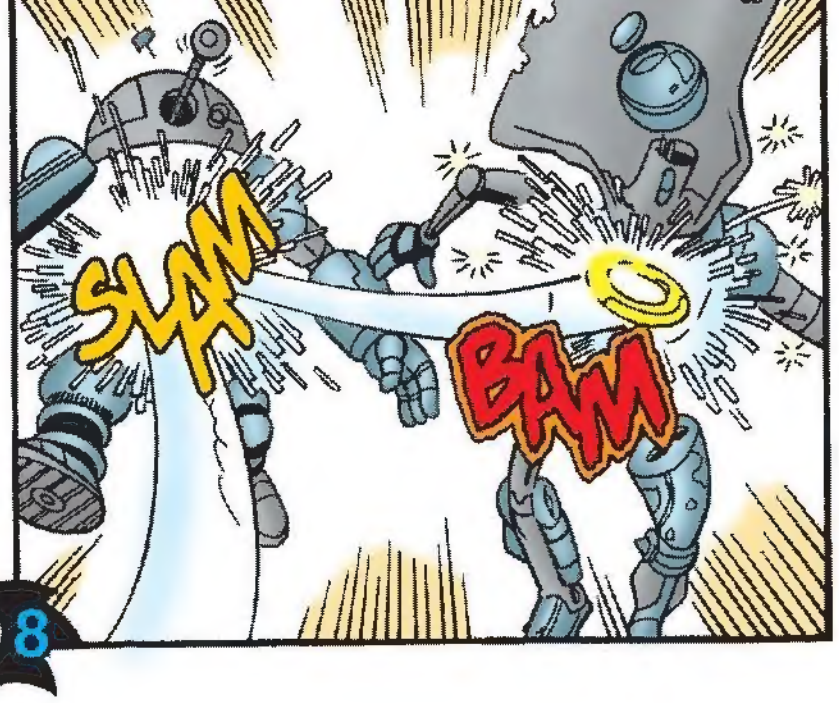

SECONDS LATER...
IF ROBOTNIK IS INVOLVED, WHAT DOES THIS NICOLE KNOW THAT IS SO IMPORTANT?
SONIC, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
YOU WERE RIGHT! I'M TRACKING FOUR ROBOTS. THEY'RE ONLY A FEW BLOCKS AWAY. IF YOU HURRY, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO CATCH THEM IN TIME!


"HURRY" IS MY MIDDLE NAME!

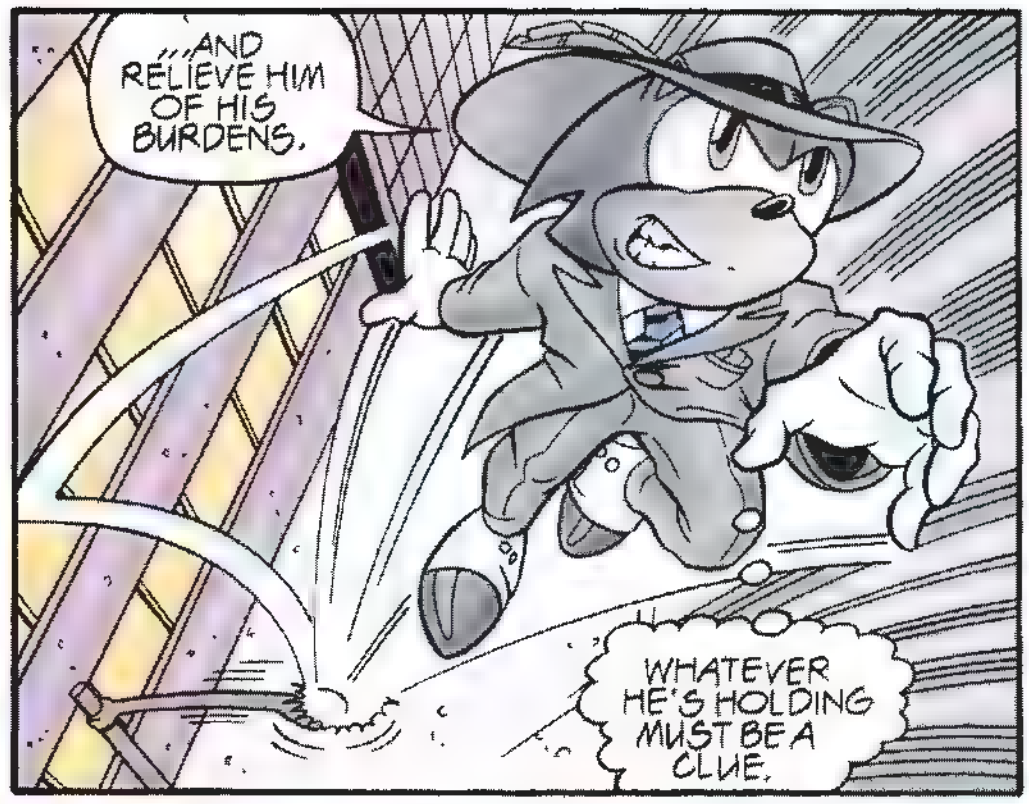

THEY'RE HEADING FOR THE HEART OF THE CITY. GOTTA GET UNDER 'EM FAST BEFORE THEY ENTER ROBOTNIK'S CONTROL RANGE!
OKAY, IT'S TIME TO GO TO WORK!

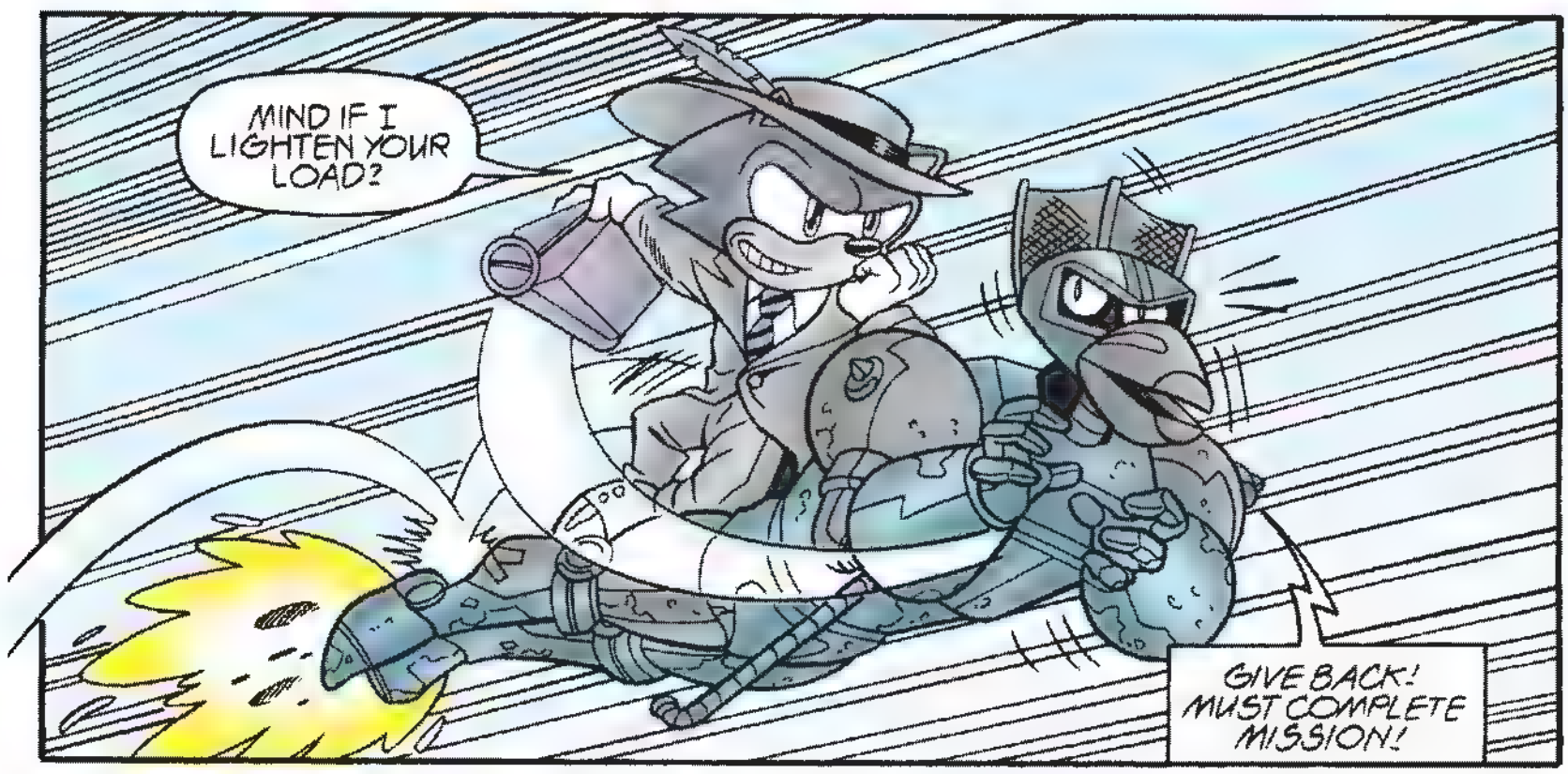

BOOM
DANGER... DANGER...
MUST COMPLETE MISSION!

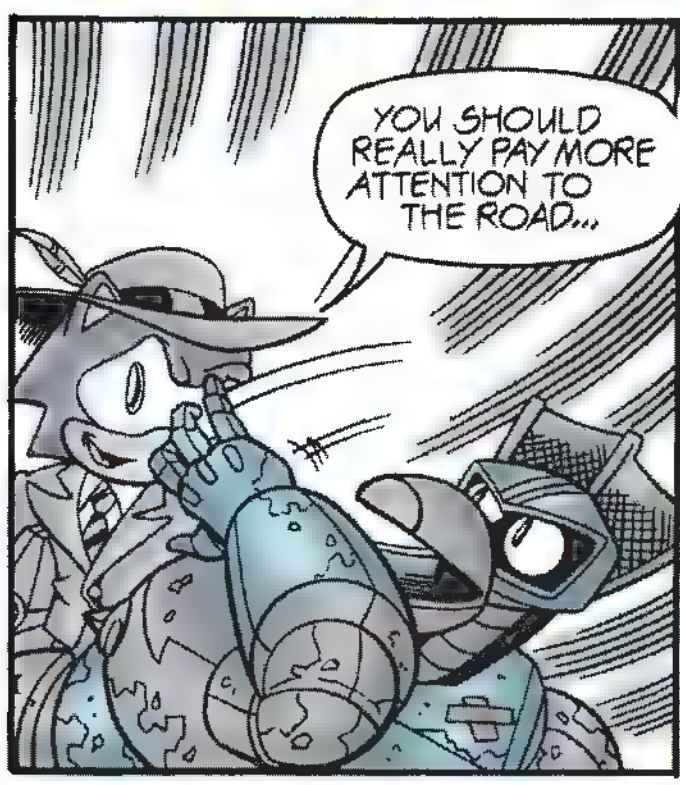

LET ME GUESS, ROBOTNIK SENT YOU!
HERE'S A MESSAGE FOR HIM.


SLAM
BAM

NOW I'LL JUST GO GET YOUR BUDDY...

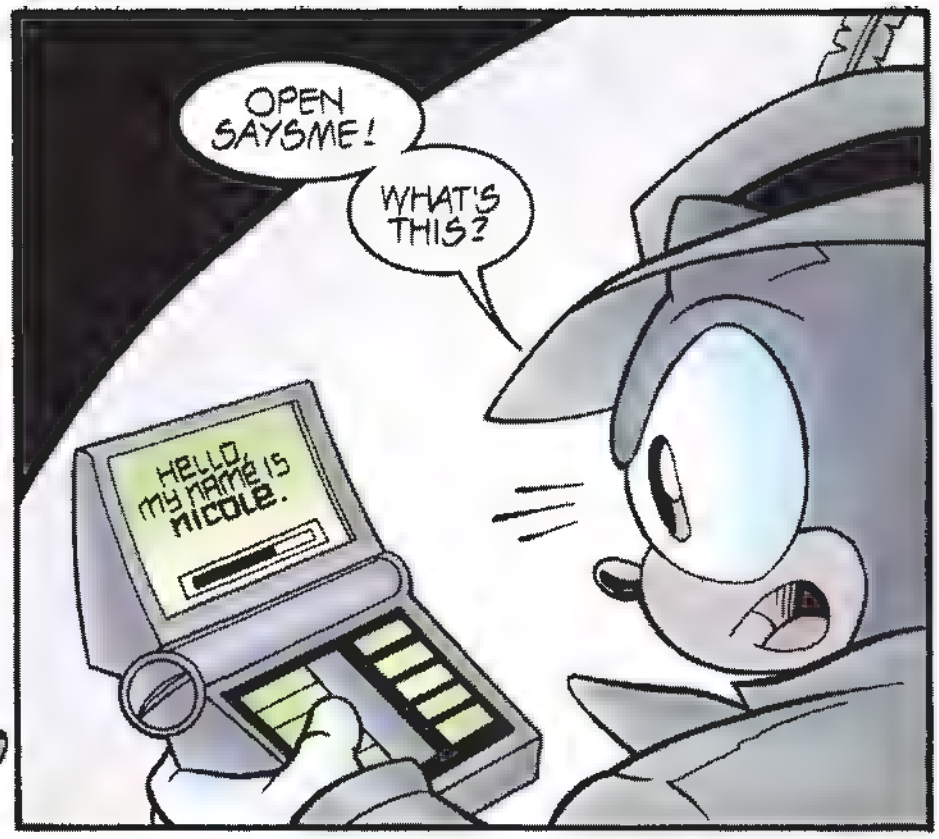

...AND RELIEVE HIM OF HIS BURDENS.
WHATEVER HE'S HOLDING MUST BE A CLUE.

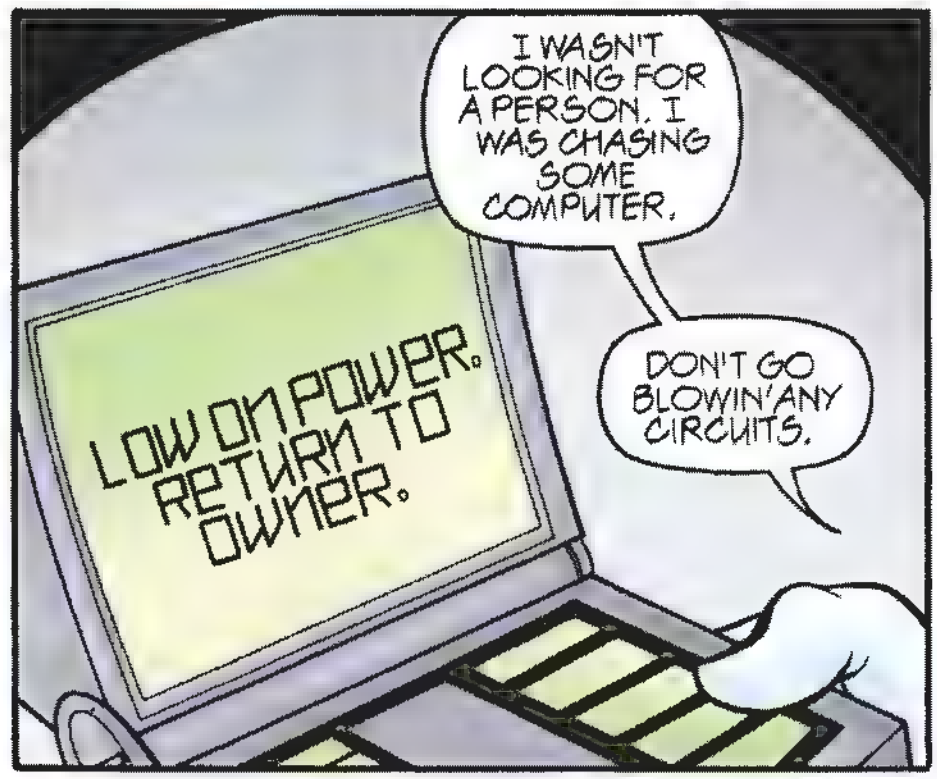

MIND IF I LIGHTEN YOUR LOAD?
GIVE BACK! MUST COMPLETE MISSION!

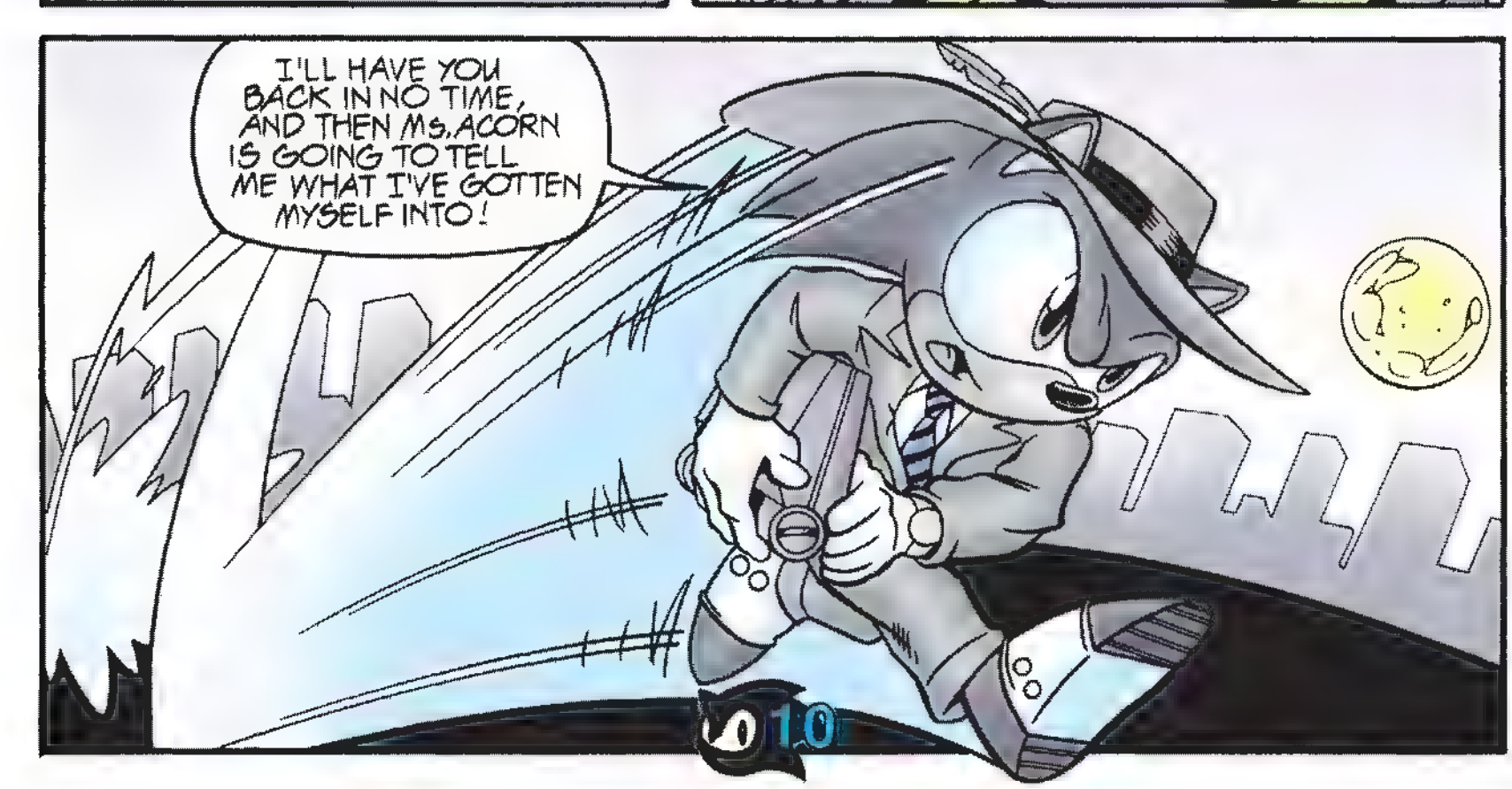

YOU SHOULD REALLY PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE ROAD...

...THAN TO YOUR PASSENGERS!
GOTTA LOVE CHEAP ROBOTS!
CRASH!

NOW MAYBE I CAN GET SOME ANSWERS.

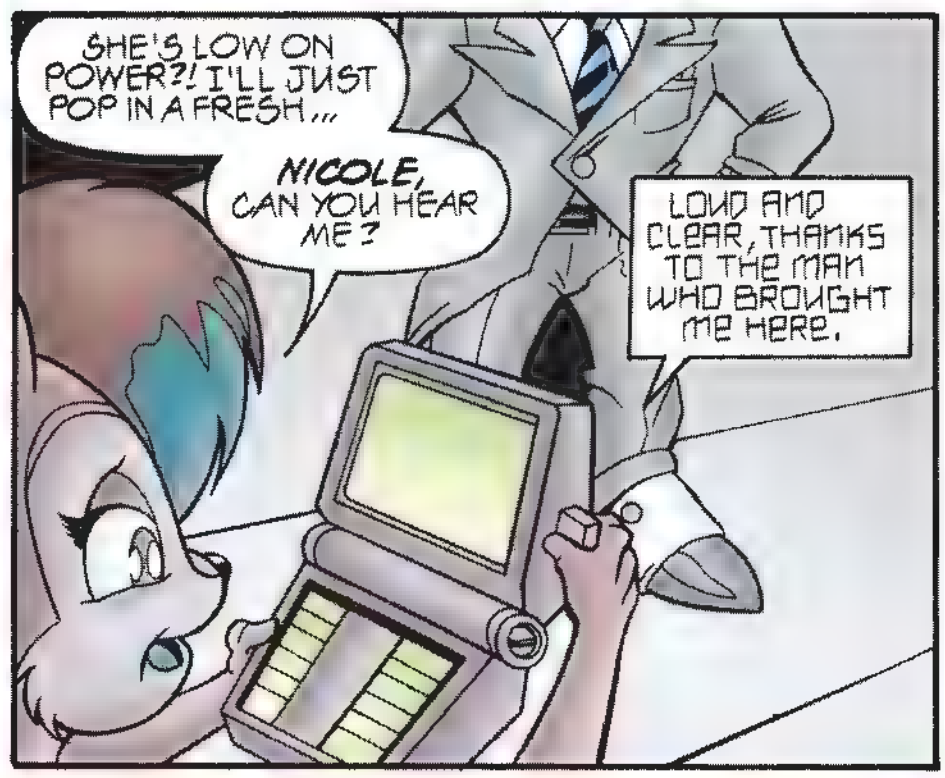

OPEN SAYSME!
WHAT'S THIS?
HELLO, MY NAME IS NICOLE.


I WASN'T LOOKING FOR A PERSON. I WAS CHASING SOME COMPUTER.
DON'T GO BLOWIN' ANY CIRCUITS.
LOW ON POWER. RETURN TO OWNER.


I'LL HAVE YOU BACK IN NO TIME, AND THEN Ms. ACORN IS GOING TO TELL ME WHAT I'VE GOTTEN MYSELF INTO!

THE DISCOVERY ZONE PART 3
I HOPE NICOLE IS ALRIGHT.
YEAH, I'M A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT SONIC, TOO.

I WAS SO WORRIED. IS NICOLE ALRIGHT? SHE'S NOT DAMAGED, IS SHE?
HERE YA GO, MS. ACORN. YA BETTER GIVE HER A REFILL IN THE JUICE DEPARTMENT, THOUGH.


SHE'S LOW ON POWER?! I'LL JUST POP IN A FRESH...
NICOLE, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
LOUD AND CLEAR, THANKS TO THE MAN WHO BROUGHT ME HERE.

I'M GLAD TO HEAR EVERYTHING IS HUNKY DORY.
THERE'S SOMETHING YOU NEED TO KNOW...
WAITER, CAN WE GET THE CHECK?

IT'S MORE LIKE TIME TO PAY THE CHECK, HEDGEHOG. YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO YOU'RE WORKING FOR, DO YOU? WELL, ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE LEADER OF THE REBELLION, ***"PRINCESS" SALLY!***

AND THAT BOX YOU WORKED SO HARD TO DELIVER CONTAINS THE PLANS TO EVERY ONE OF MY RESEARCH FACILITIES.

THAT INFORMATION COULD DESTROY ME. BUT NOW THAT I HAVE IT, THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO LIVE.

YOU'RE THE ***PRINCESS OF THE REBELLION?!*** AND YOU WERE GOING TO TELL ME THIS, WHEN?

YOU LEFT SO FAST, I BARELY HAD A CHANCE TO TELL YOU WHERE TO LOOK.

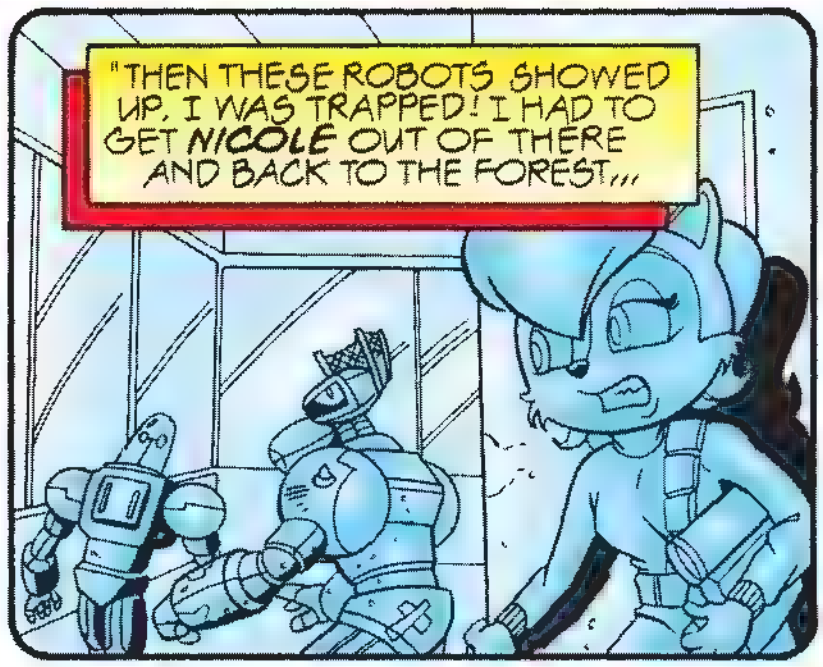
WE'LL ARGUE THIS POINT LATER. RIGHT NOW THOUGH...

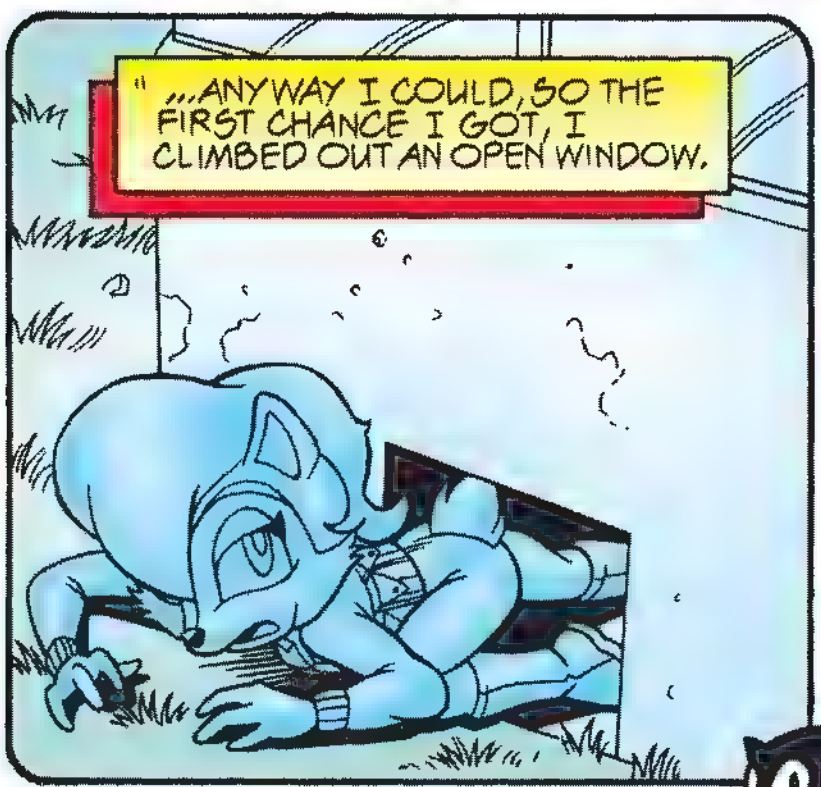
...SOMEBODY HAS TO SAVE OUR SKIN!

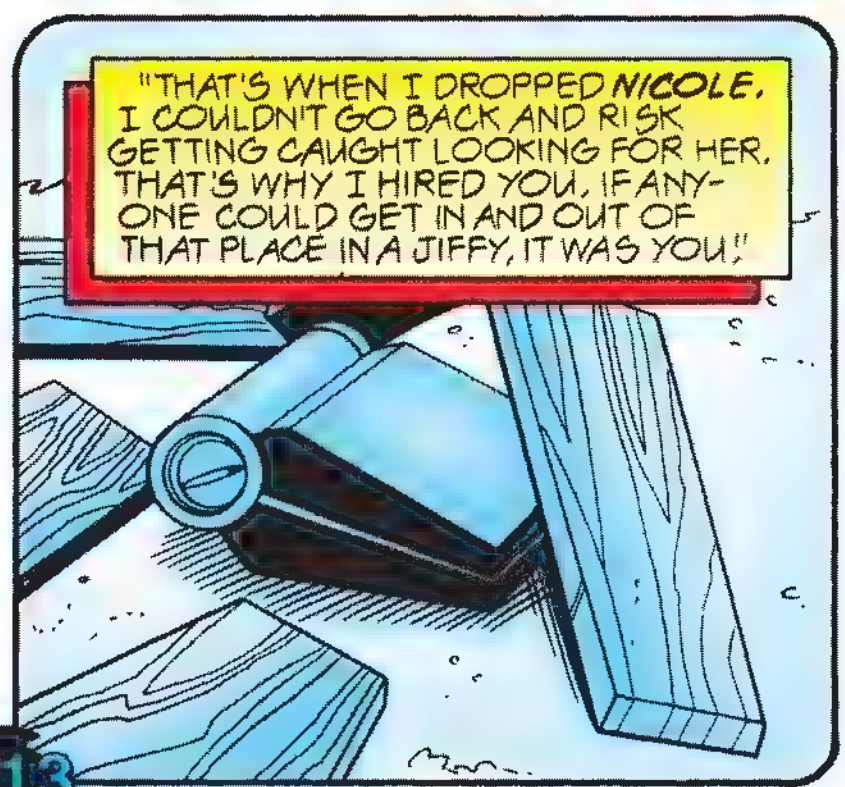
WHAT?

WOULDN'T WANT THE LITTLE LADY TO LOSE HER HEAD PREMATURELY.

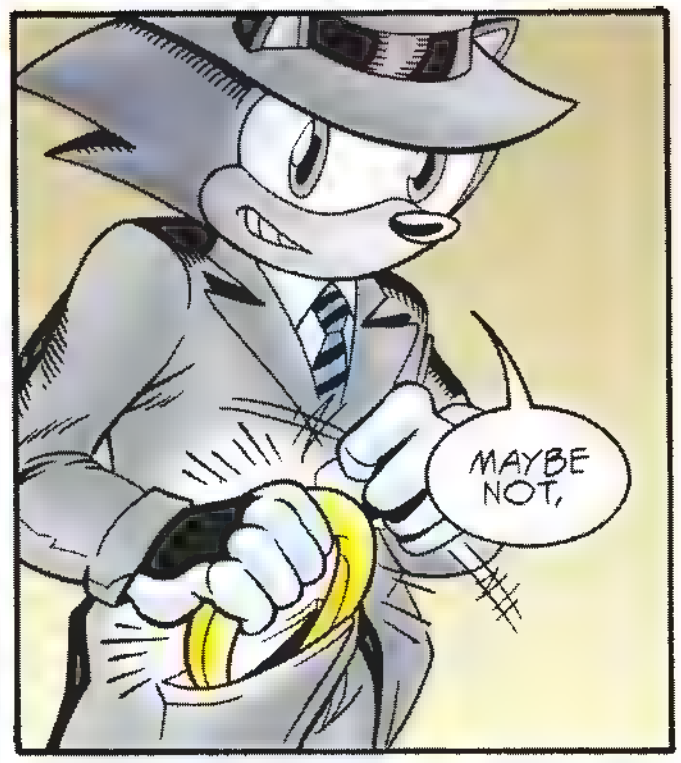
SONIC, I'M SO SORRY!

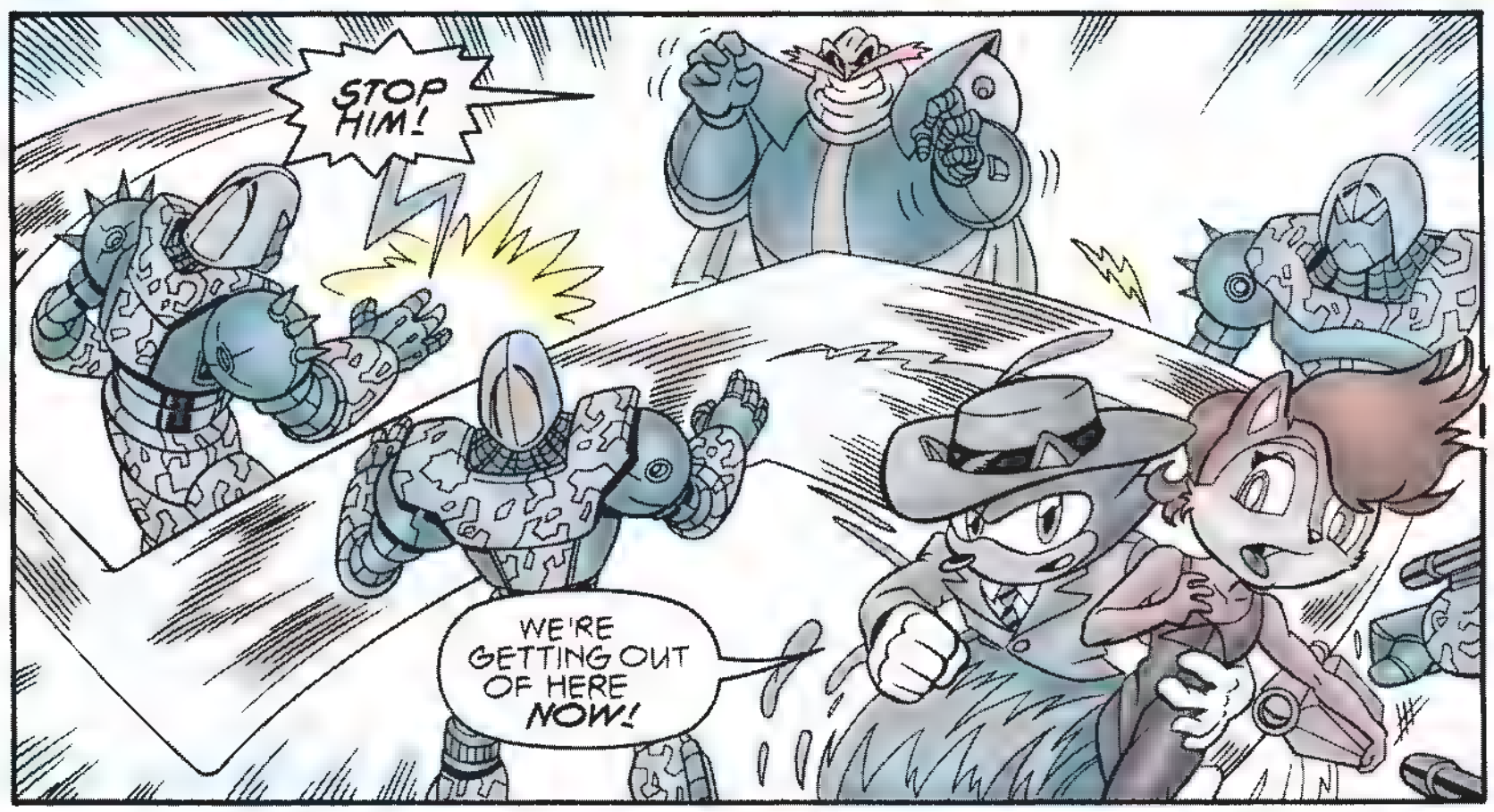






YOU SEE, HEDGEHOG, YOU'RE LICKED.


MAYBE NOT.

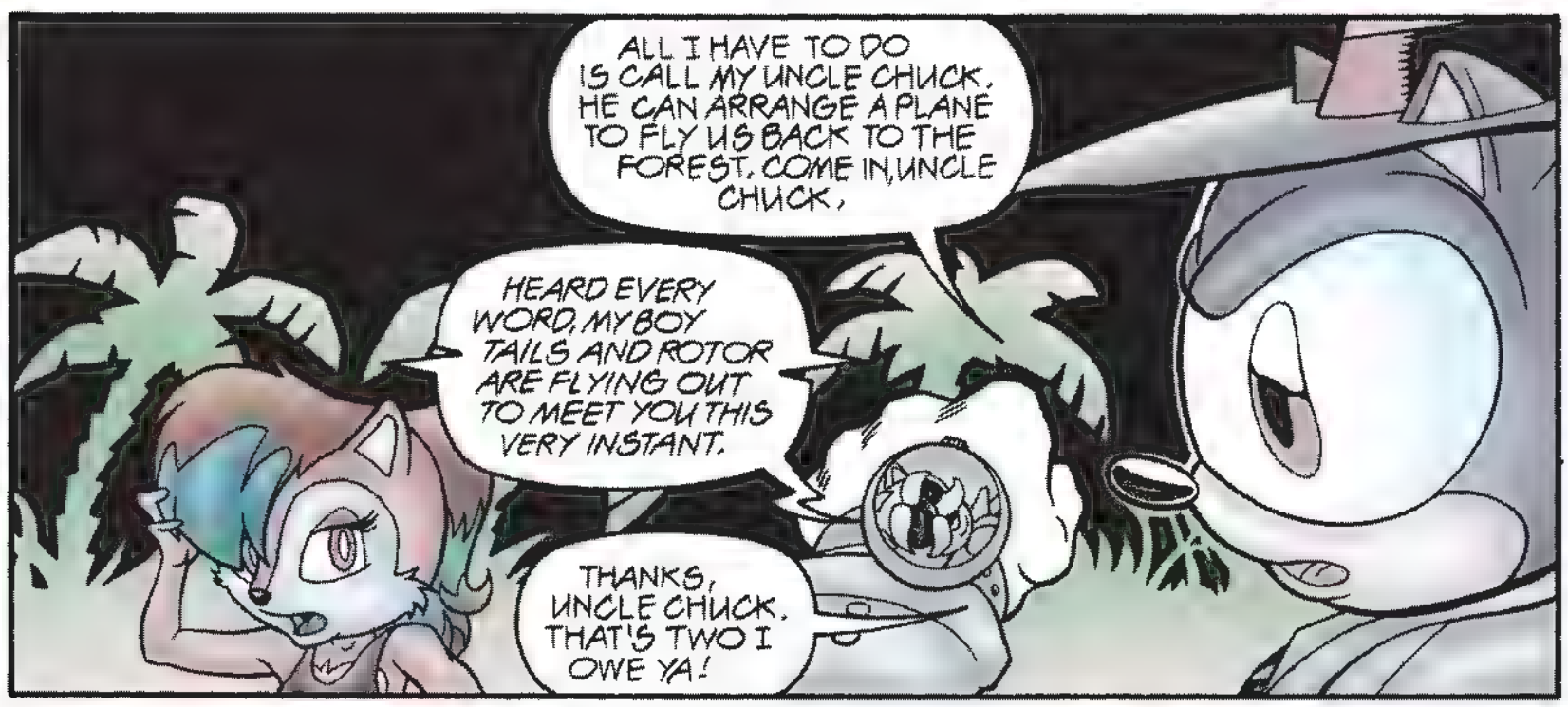

STOP HIM!
WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE NOW!

WOOSH

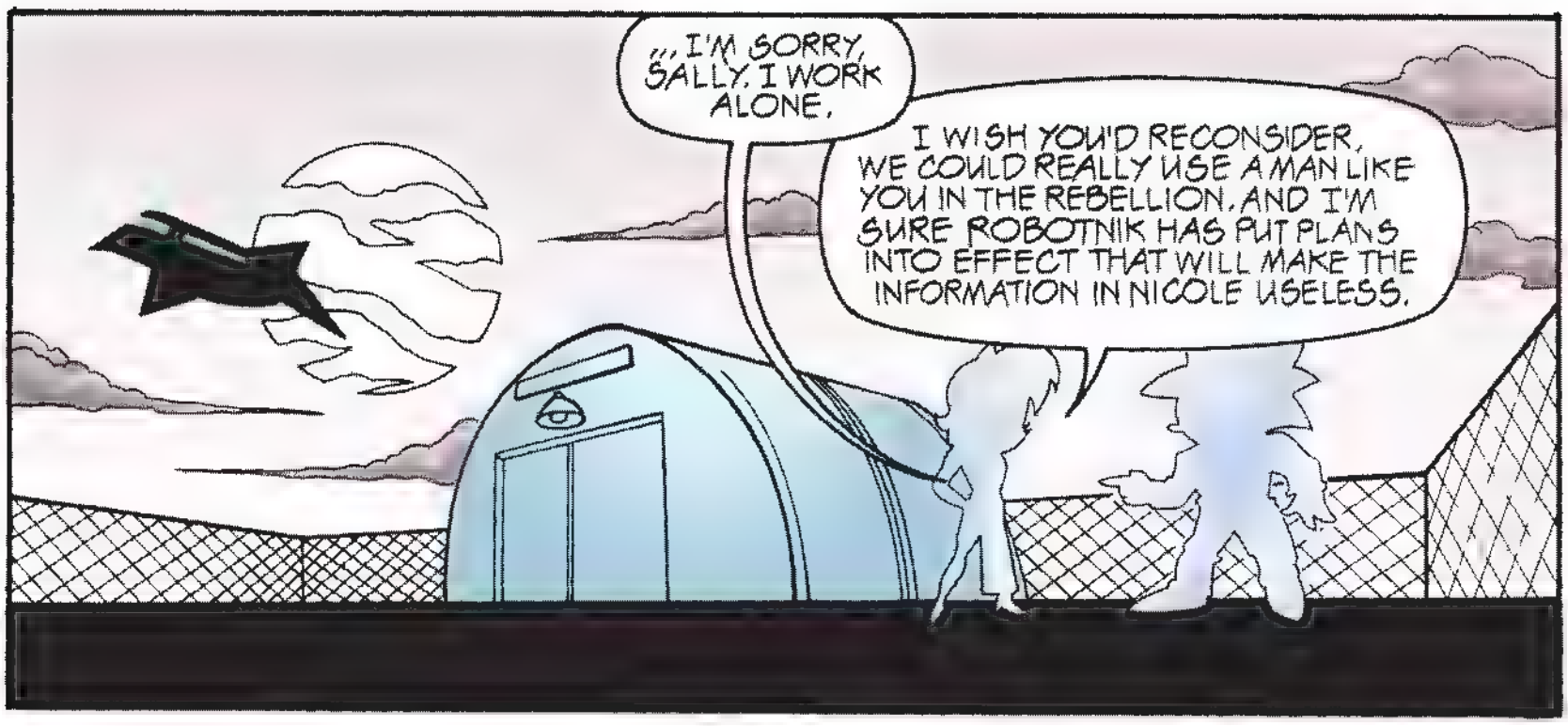
I WANT THEM FOUND!

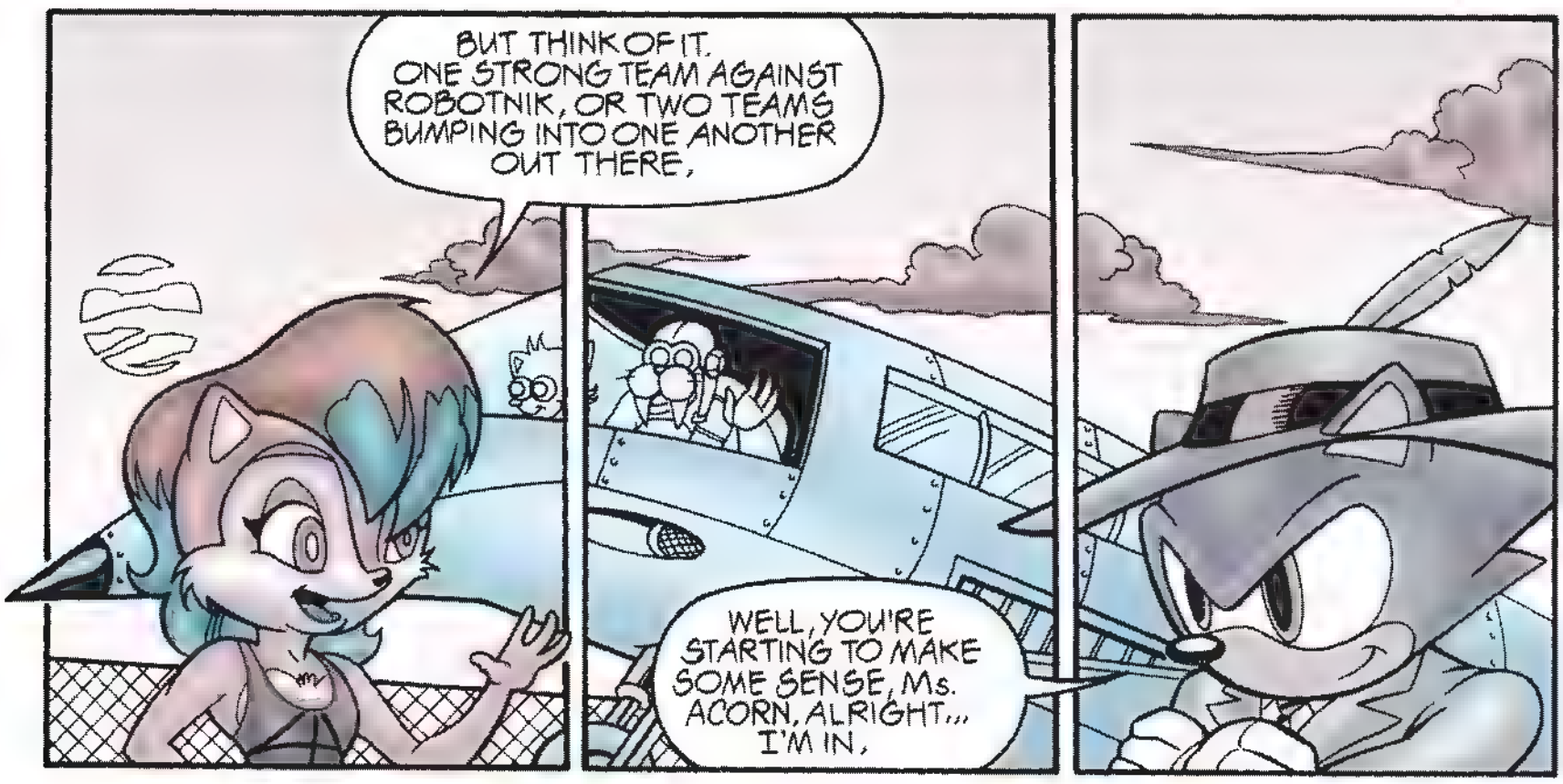
YOU MAY HAVE WON THIS ROUND, BUT YOU CAN BET THERE WILL BE A NEXT TIME!
HOW I HATE HIM!

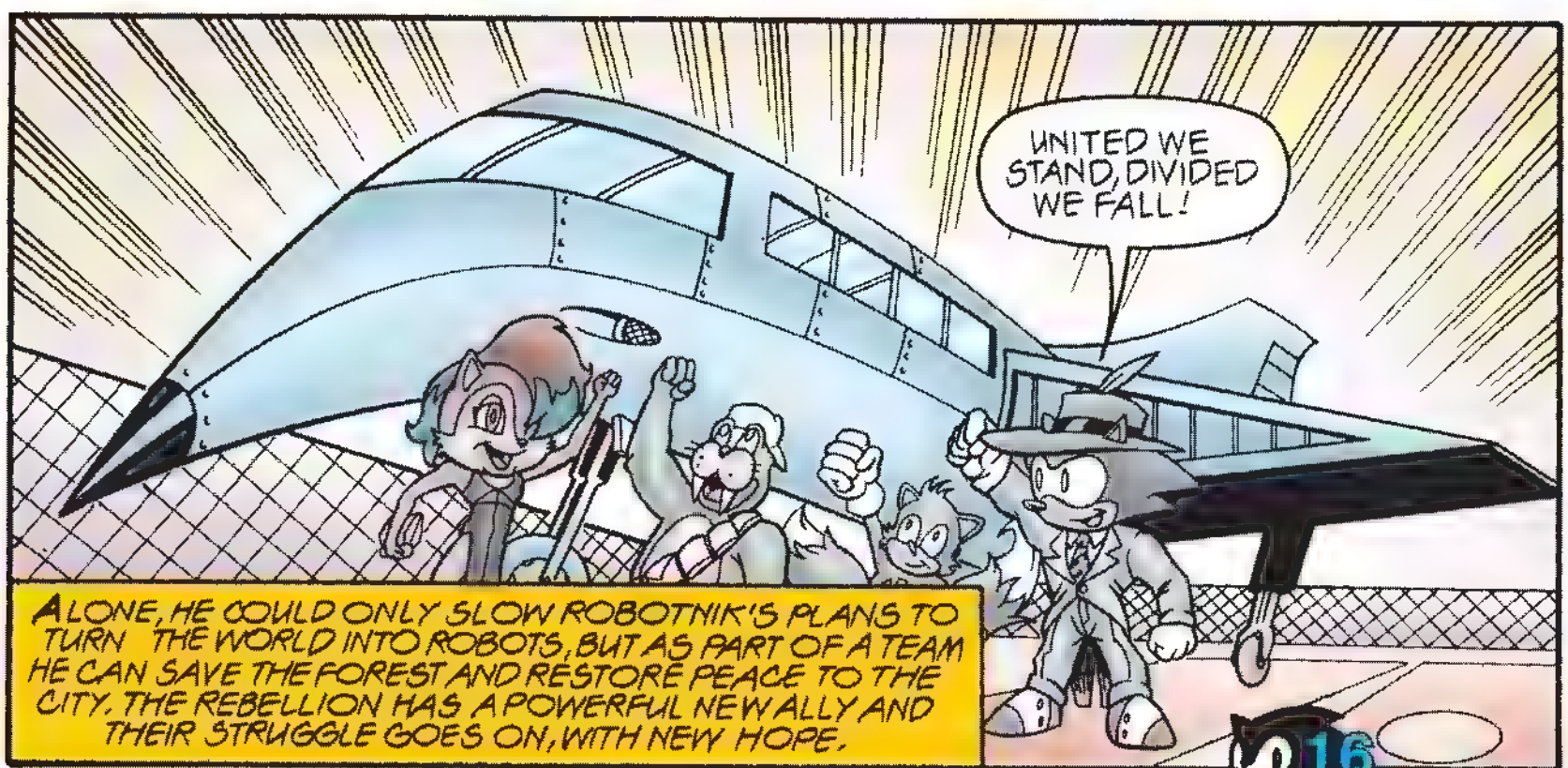
POWER RINGS, NEVER LEAVE HOME WITHOUT THEM.
NICE TRICK. WHAT DO YOU DO FOR AN ENCORE?


ALL I HAVE TO DO IS CALL MY UNCLE CHUCK. HE CAN ARRANGE A PLANE TO FLY US BACK TO THE FOREST. COME IN, UNCLE CHUCK.
HEARD EVERY WORD, MY BOY TAILS AND ROTOR ARE FLYING OUT TO MEET YOU THIS VERY INSTANT.
THANKS, UNCLE CHUCK. THAT'S TWO I OWE YA!

HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GET TO THE AIRPORT WITH ROBOTNIK'S GOONS RUNNING AROUND OUTSIDE?
WITH A LITTLE TRICK SIP THE WAITER SHOWED ME.
LADIES FIRST. THE TUNNEL RUNS STRAIGHT TO THE AIRPORT.
I LIKE THIS GUY SIP ALREADY.


...I'M SORRY, SALLY. I WORK ALONE.
I WISH YOU'D RECONSIDER. WE COULD REALLY USE A MAN LIKE YOU IN THE REBELLION. AND I'M SURE ROBOTNIK HAS PUT PLANS INTO EFFECT THAT WILL MAKE THE INFORMATION IN NICOLE USELESS.


BUT THINK OF IT. ONE STRONG TEAM AGAINST ROBOTNIK, OR TWO TEAMS BUMPING INTO ONE ANOTHER OUT THERE.
WELL, YOU'RE STARTING TO MAKE SOME SENSE, Ms. ACORN. ALRIGHT... I'M IN.


UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL!
ALONE, HE COULD ONLY SLOW ROBOTNIK'S PLANS TO TURN THE WORLD INTO ROBOTS, BUT AS PART OF A TEAM HE CAN SAVE THE FOREST AND RESTORE PEACE TO THE CITY. THE REBELLION HAS A POWERFUL NEW ALLY AND THEIR STRUGGLE GOES ON, WITH NEW HOPE.

THERE HE IS!
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?

TAILS SAID YOU FOLLOWED A LEISURE SUIT INTO THE WOODS. WE ALL THOUGHT--
OUT WITH IT, LAD! YOU HAD US WORRIED SICK!
GOSH, YA KNOW GUYS, I REALLY WISH I COULD ANSWER YOU, BUT ALL OF A SUDDEN I WAS...
...FIGHTING ROBOTNIK?!
SONIC, ARE YOU OKAY? HE'S DEAD, REMEMBER?

I THINK SOMEONE'S BEEN EATING TOO MANY CHILI-DOGS.
END

FAN ART

SONIC

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AMBRYICE
BIGGS
AGE 11

AUSTIN
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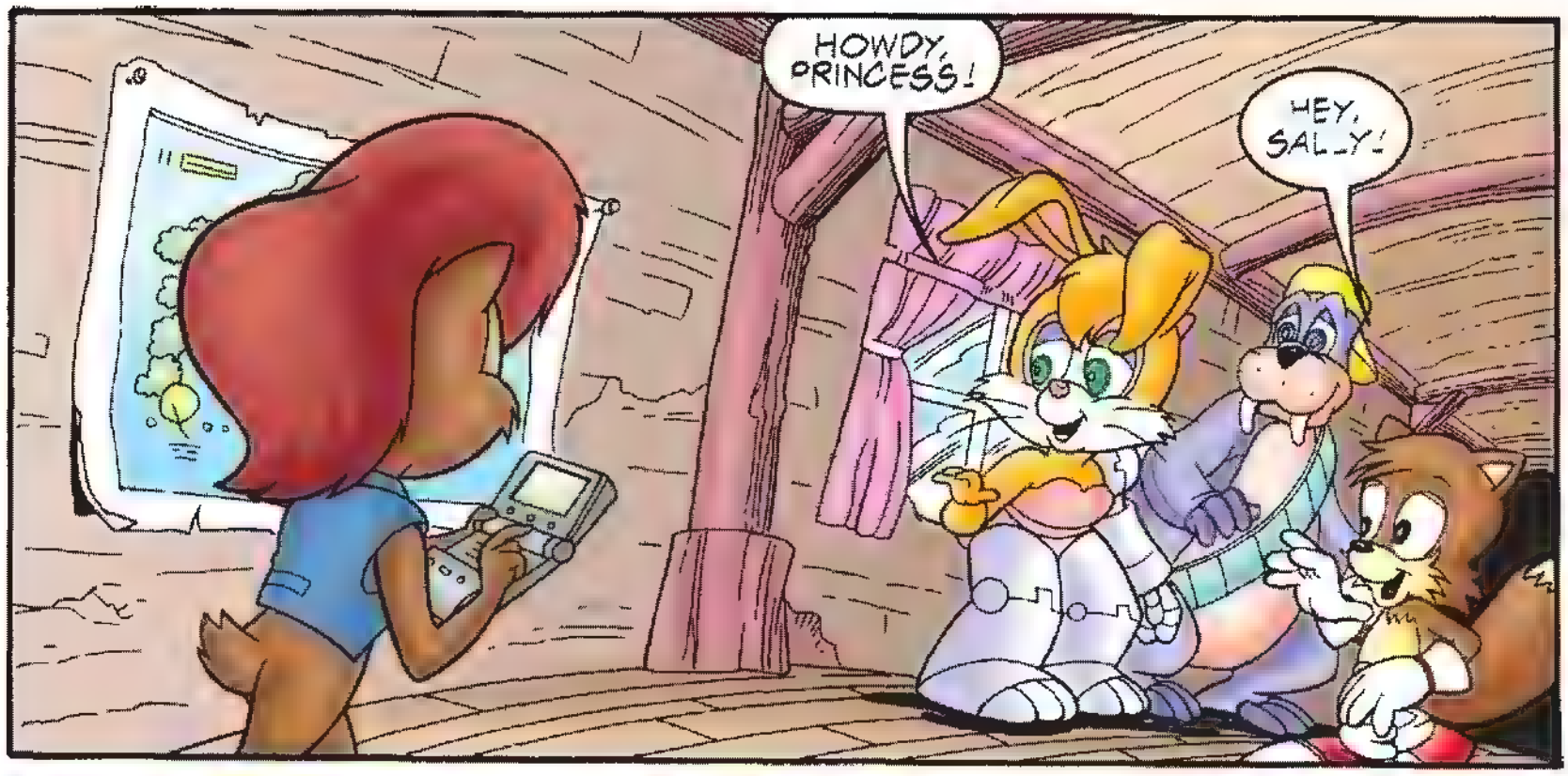
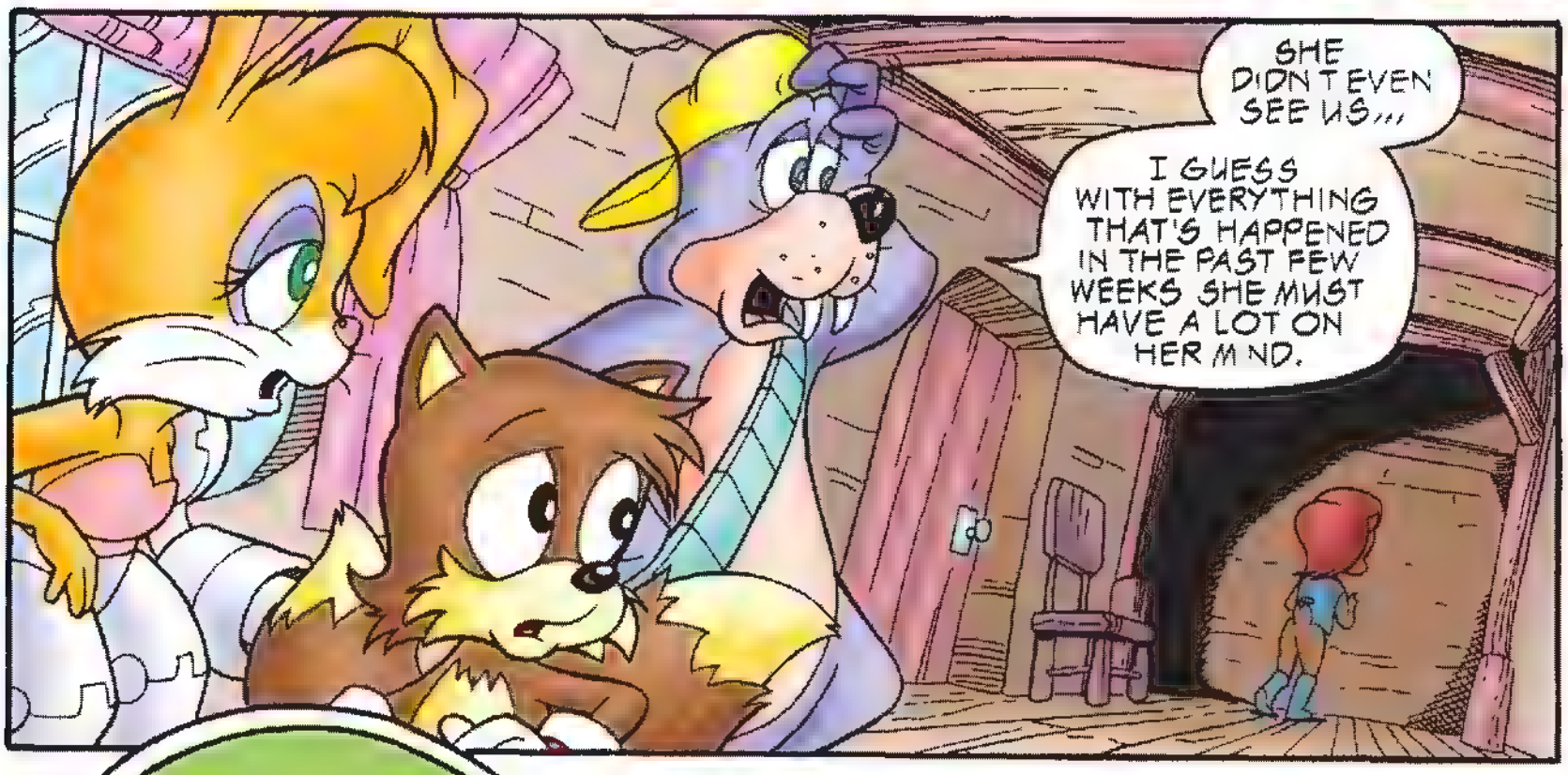
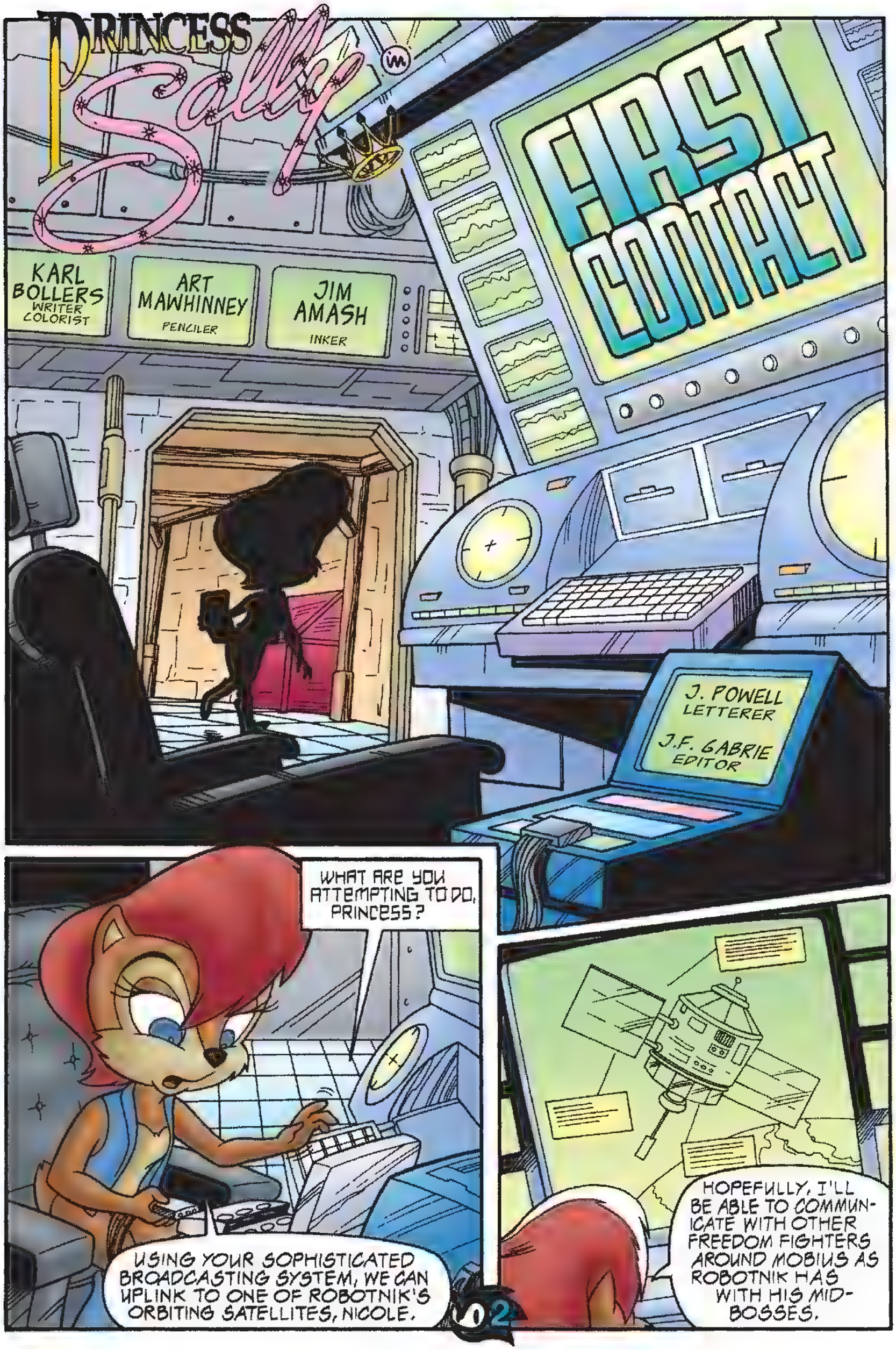
MAMARONECK, NY
10543-0419


HOWDY, PRINCESS!
HEY, SALLY!


SHE DIDN'T EVEN SEE US...
I GUESS WITH EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS SHE MUST HAVE A LOT ON HER MIND.

TEK TEK TEK
SWOOSH
WELL, HERE GOES NOTHING...IF UNCLE CHUCK'S THEORIES ARE CORRECT, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO ESTABLISH--


PRINCESS Sally
FIRST CONTACT
KARL BOLLERS WRITER COLORIST
ART MAWHINNEY PENCILER
JIM AMASH INKER
J. POWELL LETTERER
J.F. GABRIE EDITOR
WHAT ARE YOU ATTEMPTING TO DO, PRINCESS?
USING YOUR SOPHISTICATED BROADCASTING SYSTEM, WE CAN UPLINK TO ONE OF ROBOTNIK'S ORBITING SATELLITES, NICOLE.
HOPEFULLY, I'LL BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH OTHER FREEDOM FIGHTERS AROUND MOBIUS AS ROBOTNIK HAS WITH HIS MID-BOSSES.

THIS IS PRINCESS SALLY ACORN OF KNOTHOLE...

...DO YOU READ?

WE READ YOU--

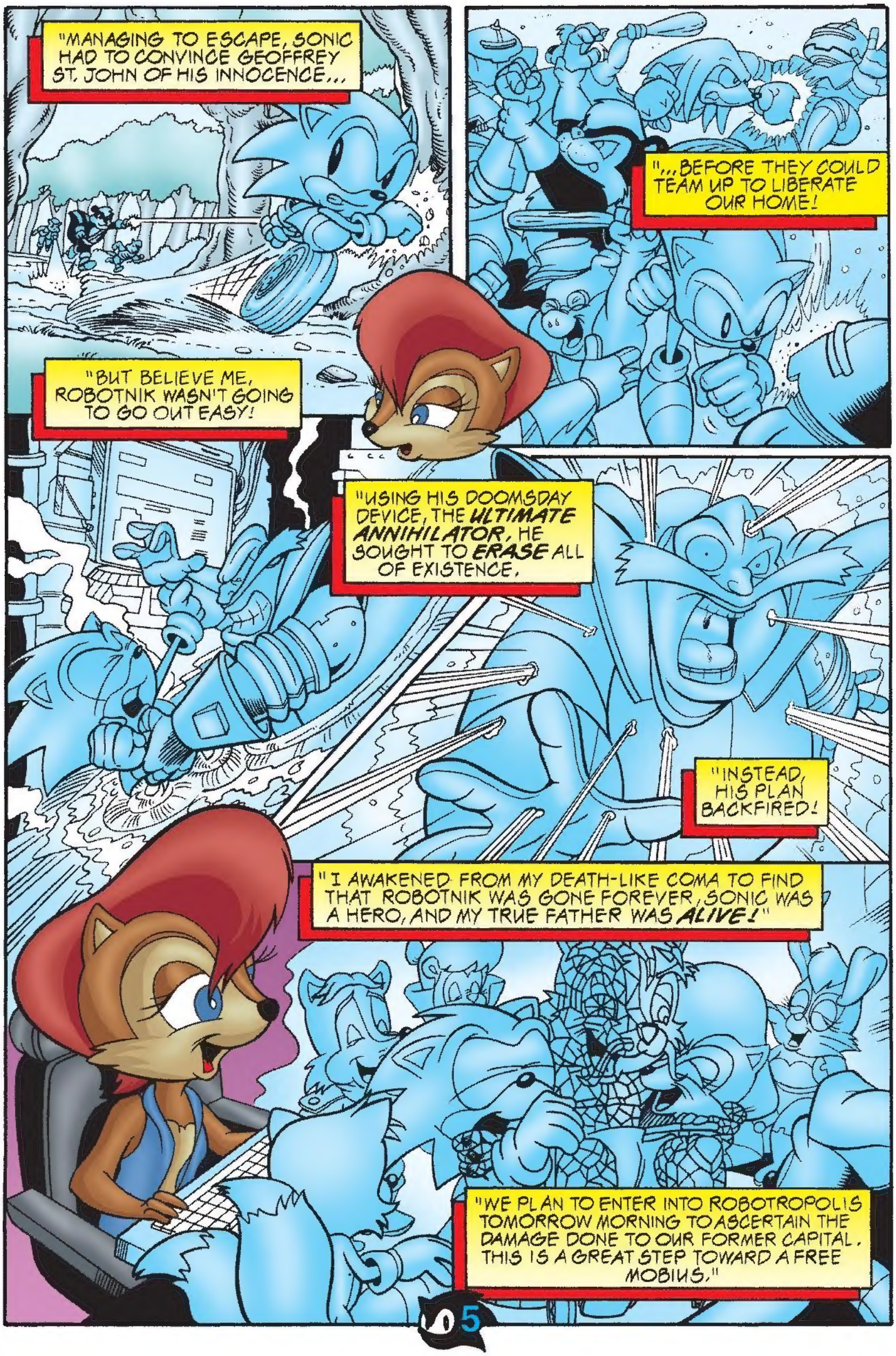
--LOUD AND--

--CLEAR, PRINCESS!

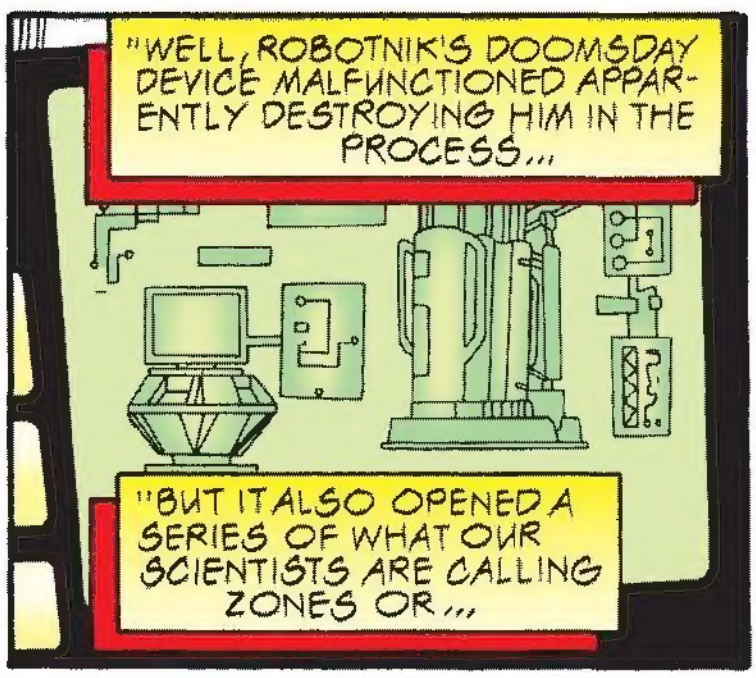
I'VE CONTACTED YOU FOR REASONS OF DIRE IMPORTANCE.

LET ME EXPLAIN...

"AS I'M SURE YOU ALL KNOW, OUR PLANET OF MOBIUS HAS BEEN UNDER SIEGE BY IVO ROBOTNIK, HIS MID-BOSSES AND HIS ROBOT FORCES FOR LONGER THAN ANY OF US CARE TO REMEMBER!
"USING THE TWISTED TECHNOLOGY AT HIS DISPOSAL, ROBOTNIK MADE US BELIEVE THAT MY FATHER, THE KING, HAD FINALLY RETURNED...
"...WHEN IN FACT IT WAS PART OF ROBOTNIK'S PLAN TO--
"--MAKE EVERYONE THINK THAT I'D HAD A FATAL FALL--
"--FRAME SONIC THE HEDGEHOG FOR THE TREACHEROUS DEED--
"--AND FINALLY FIND AND ENSLAVE KNOTHOLE VILLAGE!"


"MANAGING TO ESCAPE, SONIC HAD TO CONVINCE GEOFFREY ST. JOHN OF HIS INNOCENCE...
"...BEFORE THEY COULD TEAM UP TO LIBERATE OUR HOME!
"BUT BELIEVE ME, ROBOTNIK WASN'T GOING TO GO OUT EASY!
"USING HIS DOOMSDAY DEVICE, THE ULTIMATE ANNIHILATOR, HE SOUGHT TO ERASE ALL OF EXISTENCE,
"INSTEAD, HIS PLAN BACKFIRED!
"I AWAKENED FROM MY DEATH-LIKE COMA TO FIND THAT ROBOTNIK WAS GONE FOREVER, SONIC WAS A HERO, AND MY TRUE FATHER WAS ALIVE!"
"WE PLAN TO ENTER INTO ROBOTROPOLIS TOMORROW MORNING TO ASCERTAIN THE DAMAGE DONE TO OUR FORMER CAPITAL. THIS IS A GREAT STEP TOWARD A FREE MOBIUS."

AS POSITIVE AS THAT SOUNDS... I'M SAD TO SAY THAT THINGS DIDN'T TURN OUT AS HAPPILY EVER AFTER AS WE'D HOPED.
WHAT DO YE MEAN, PRINCESS?


"WELL, ROBOTNIK'S DOOMSDAY DEVICE MALFUNCTIONED APPARENTLY DESTROYING HIM IN THE PROCESS...
"BUT IT ALSO OPENED A SERIES OF WHAT OUR SCIENTISTS ARE CALLING ZONES OR...

"...ALTERNATE REALITIES IN RANDOM APPEARANCES AROUND THE PLANET! SONIC FELL INTO ONE BY A CAVE TODAY THAT DISAPPEARED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY.*
"EVEN KNOTHOLE VILLAGE EXISTS IN A TEMPORAL ZONE THREE HOURS AHEAD. THE ONLY WAY IN AND OUT IS THROUGH THE GREAT OAK SLIDE."
*SEE MAIN STORY. --EDITOR.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US, SALLY?
BEWARE THE ZONES. THEY ARE ALL--
PZZZZT
--OVER! NO! WHAT HAPPENED, NICOLE?
SATELLITE UPLINK HAS DETERIORATED, PRINCESS.
WELL, I HOPE I'VE GIVEN THEM ENOUGH INFO TO STAY CLEAR OF THE ZONES.
ONLY TIME WILL TELL, PRINCESS. ONLY TIME WILL TELL.
End.

SONIC-GRAMS

J. Freddy Gabrie
Editor

THIS JUST IN!

THE WAITING IS ALMOST OVER!

In two weeks, you will read a comic that has it all! *The Freedom Fighters travel into Robotropolis to assess the amount of damage done to their former city of Mobotropolis. But what kind of surprises await them? Are they friendly or deadly? And what does Snively think of all this? You don't think he's just going to let them stroll in, do you? Also, BIG Sonic news revealed in this issue, so don't miss it!!! Story and art by Ken Penders!* **SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #2: "Brave New World" on sale Sept. '97.**

...And next month, two stories for the price of one! *As the Freedom Fighters handle recent events, Knuckles and Julie-Su come to town. For what purpose? Read and see for yourself. Written and Inked by Ken Penders. Pencils by Art Mawhinney. So you thought Robotnik being gone would be the end of The Freedom Fighters' problems? Not when you have people like Warlord Kodos and the 'supposed' creator of the Zone of Silence, wizard extraordinaire Ixis Naugus, vying for control! Story by Karl Bollers with art by Sam Maxwell and Pam Eklund.* **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #53 on sale Sept.'97.**

Due to an oversight, last issue ran without the credits, so here they are.

KARL BOLLERS
WRITER/COLORIST
SAM MAXWELL
PENCILER
ANDREW PEPOY
INKER
JEFF POWELL
LETTERER
J.FREDDY GABRIE
EDITOR
VICTOR GORELICK
MANAGING EDITOR
RICHARD GOLDWATER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JUST CUT OUT AND PASTE IN ISSUE #5

SEND LETTERS TO:
SONIC-GRAMS #52
[illegible]
P.O. BOX 419
MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419
e-mail address: SonicNotes@ aol.com

Dear Sonic- Grams,

I absolutely loved the return of Mobie The Care-Bear in SONIC #45. I think Spaz did a great job on the cover. Mobie looks great. Sonic was pretty slick trying to give the Gorrilla Gorillas their own weaponry. As for KNUCKLES: THE DARK LEGION mini-series, I can't wait to see how it turns out. I am a big fan of both Knuckles and Sonic, equally. Gotta juice!

Michael "Reptile" Davis
Richlands, NC

Spaz thanks you for your comments on his art-work. He aims to please. I got a kick working with Mobie again (even though I can't understand a word he's saying). I'm sure the Gorillas and Mobie can live in peace in the Mobian jungle. Knuckles on the other hand (or fist), is going through a lot of stuff in his book. He'll be taking a break and making a special visit in my book next issue.

Dear Sonic & Knuckles,

Salutations from your #1 fan! I [redacted] to bother you, but I have a few questions: 1) Why do you hate each other so much? 2) If Sally's a chipmunk, why is her father a fox? 3) Where did Archimedes come from? 4) What happened to your dad? Say "Hi!" to Tails for my friend Katy the Fox (she thinks he's cute).

Streaky Echidna
St. Augustine, FL

Salutations right back at 'cha. Believe me, questions are not a bother (Antoine's foot odor is): 1) Knuckles and I don't hate each other, we just kind of never saw eye to eye and we annoyed each other for it. But, after sticking by my side in Issue #50, I think he's a righteous dude. 2) Who said Sally's father, King Acorn was a fox? King Acorn is a squirrel and Sally's mom is a chipmunk, which makes Sally a little of both, I guess. 3&4) Check out Knuckles' own series for the answer to those questions.

Dear Sonic,

Yo, what's up! Just thought I'd write in and say "Hi!" to everyone. I started my subscription last August. In SONIC #46, Antoine said he thought St. John was the spy. I agree with him. I have some questions: 1) Why do you hate Knuckles? He's one of the good guys, too, you know. I like him as much as I like you. 2) Why did you start that fight in SUPER SONIC VS. HYPER KNUCKLES Special #1? 3) Are there any gem stones more powerful than the Chaos Emeralds? Keep up the good work!

Amanda Coombes
Terre Haute, IN

Welcome aboard the Sonic Express. We love welcoming new readers all the time (even if it was last August), so on to your questions: 1) Why does everyone think I hate Knuckles? I know we started on the wrong foot and got into a few scraps but I don't hate The Red Red. I'll make sure everyone knows it one day. 2) Well, I thought he was going to strike a deal with Robotnik like he did when we first met. He was tricked by Robotnik to fight us so I should have known he wasn't teaming with him again. Chalk one up to experience. 3) I don't know of anything more powerful on Mobius than a Chaos Emerald.

Dear Sonic,

Hey, cool-blue hedgehog! Robotnik's still up to no good! It figures. If you looked like him, you wouldn't exactly want to be a good guy! Anyway, I loved SONIC #46! It was almost as cool as you (and Tails) are! I liked Lupe and The Wolfpack Freedom Fighters. I appreciate Bunnie and Dulcy making an appearance but I'd really like to see Amy Rose again. Question time: 1) Will there be a Bunnie mini-series? 2) Are you going to show other Freedom Fighters? 3) Are you going to reprint SONIC #3 & #25? See ya in those comics, compadre!
Kendra "Krazy Kat" Kountz (Age 11)
[redacted]

You're right. Looking like Robotnik would drive me to do bad. Rest assured, never will yours truly ever sprout an orange mustache. It would hurt my style of blueness. Anyway, answer time: 1) No Bunnie mini-series scheduled for the near future. 2) Yes. 3) No plans on reprinting SONIC #25, but you're in luck for SONIC #3, as well as SONIC #0, SONIC #4, and SONIC #13 in a special we're calling "SONIC THE HEDGEHOG: FIRSTS!" This special bookshelf edition will showcase the first appearances of Sonic and The Freedom Fighters (#0), Bunnie Rabbot (#3), Super Sonic (#4) and everyone's favorite guardian, Knuckles The Echidna (#13). Look for it in local shops by the end of September. More about this next month.

P.S. Also in September... The official launch for the Archie web-site! Just type **www.archiecomics.com** and you'll get the up-to-the minute info on all your favorite Archie characters plus our very own **Sonic & Knuckles!** More on this next month!